

## Africans want troops to enforce deal

From PETER NIESEWAND: Salisbury, November 17

African nationalists meeting Sir Alec Douglas-Home today called for a British or United Nations military presence in Rhodesia to guarantee any settlement Constitution. The demand came from four former political prisoners who were leading members of nationalist organisations in the early 1970s.

A memorandum signed by Josiah Chinamano, and Cephas Msipa, former office bearers in the banned Zimbabwe African People's Union, and Edson Sithole and Michael Mawema, former senior members of the banned Zimbabwe African National Union, was handed to Sir Alec. It listed 12 proposals for a settlement Constitution.

The memorandum said, "We propose that the Constitution should have a provision which authorises Her Majesty's Government or the United Nations to intervene in the event of violation or threatened violation of the entrenched clauses or of the settlement Constitution as a whole."

## Nixon defies UN sanctions

From ADAM RAPHAEL: Washington, November 17

President Nixon today signed into law legislation defying UN sanctions against Rhodesia by permitting the importation of chrome ore from January 1 next, in spite of the British Government's expressed displeasure. "We are extremely concerned and the Administration is aware of our views," said a British spokesman stiffly.

In a report from Salisbury published by the "Washington Post" today, Sir Alec Douglas-Home is said to have told black African leaders that the American rejection of sanctions had seriously undercut the British Government's bargaining position with the Smith regime.

Nevertheless, Mr Nixon declined today to exercise his prerogative to veto the \$21,000 million Weapons Appropriations Bill to which the Rhodesian amendment had been attached, explaining that the sanctions clause would not be implemented while negotiations were going on in Salisbury.

The State Department, however, seemed more than a little unhappy with this position in light of yesterday's 106-2 vote in the United Nations General Assembly, expressing "grave concern."

The department spokesman, Mr Charles Bray, noted that the US record on sanctions had up to this point been "second to none" and said that the Administration was strongly opposed to the Bill.

"We opposed it—we do not believe it was necessary, but the Bill has none the less been passed by both Houses of Congress," he said.

Noticeably lacking in official explanations is why the Administration made only a token attempt to halt the passage of the chrome amendment to the Senate was left to Senator Gale McGee, a Democrat from Wyoming, and it was apparent to many Republicans that the White House would not be unhappy if the amendment sailed through.

Helped by lobbying from American arms interests, the Rhodesian and Administration's apparent desire not to antagonise its Southern constituency—it is just what happened.

## Giro saved, but cost to go up

By VICTOR KEEGAN, Industrial Correspondent

The Government reprieved the Giro yesterday, but substantial price increases are likely if the service is to pay its way.

It appears that the survival of the Giro, which lost \$8 million last year, was by no means the foregone conclusion that recent reports indicated. The Post Office had to fight hard with the Government in spite of the recommendation by City accountants that it should not be closed.

Mr Christopher Chataway, Minister of Posts and Telecommunications, told the Commons yesterday that the Post Office agreed there should be stronger management, improved financial control, changes in marketing policy, and "in due course" a revised tariff structure.

Now the Giro can look forward to a big expansion into Europe where it believes it will have an edge over the banks in the growing business of transferring money among Continental countries.

One factor which seems to have weighed heavily in the Government's decision is the fact that the Giro would have caused most of the 3,500 workforces in Bootle where unemployment is already high.

Mr Bill Ryland, chairman of the Post Office Corporation, said yesterday that these jobs were safe in the short term but in the long term it would depend on success of the Giro.

The Post Office is clearly confident that the Giro will be a big success now that the death sentence, which has been deterring new customers over the past year, has been lifted.

Price increases are inevitable because charges have not been changed since the Giro opened in 1968. Current charges are 4p for drawing cheques and 3p to pay a cheque to someone else. Transfers between holders are free.

In theory charges could be increased by a weighted average of 5 per cent before the Confederation of British Industry's price initiative ends in July. But this would probably hurt the Giro because its charges are in such low units.

Another public enterprise, the National Freight Corporation, announced yesterday that it was selling its shipping subsidiary Atlantic Steam Navigation, to European Ferries, the private enterprise group, for £5.5 million. The NFC would probably have sold this company to British Rail two years ago but for the change in Government.

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Mr Jenkins outside the Commons yesterday after the vote

## New votes for Foot make things even

By FRANCIS BOYD, Political Correspondent

Mr Roy Jenkins, deputy leader of the Parliamentary Labour Party, who vied with the Government on entry into the EEC, was re-elected deputy leader yesterday by a majority of 14: 140 for Mr Jenkins, and 126 for Mr Michael Foot.

In the first ballot for a deputy leader last week, Mr Jenkins polled 140 against 98 for Mr Foot and 46 for Mr Anthony Wedgwood Benn. It appears therefore that 30 of the votes given to Mr Benn by "abstentionists"—those who did not wish to give their first choice either to Mr Jenkins or to Mr Foot—were transferred in the second ballot to Mr Foot, but that none was transferred to Mr Jenkins.

In the first ballot, seven votes were unaccounted for: in the second, 23. These figures suggest that 16 of the Labour MPs who voted for Mr Benn in the first ballot abstained in the second.

Mr Jenkins's re-election is surprising enough in itself since his voting with the Government caused great offence to Labour MPs who regard the decisions of Labour's national executive, and the PLP as sacrosanct, and the annual Labour Conference, and the PLP as sacrosanct, and the annual Labour Conference, and the PLP as sacrosanct, and the annual Labour Conference, and the PLP as sacrosanct.

Although Mr Richard Crossman's "New Statesman" stated last week that Mr Jenkins's re-election as deputy leader would be disastrous for Labour, there is good ground for the view that the result of yesterday's ballot may be entirely

wholesome for Labour. It means that a majority of Labour MPs have voted down a witchhunt against Mr Jenkins because of his European policy, but have recognised the strength of the anti-EEC element within the party for which Mr Foot is the chief spokesman.

The result of the ballot means that the supporters of the rival factions in the party may at last have a chance to meet in the street if by chance they meet. Mr Jenkins has won, but Mr Foot has picked up more of Mr Jenkins's votes than has Mr Jenkins.

Supporters of Mr Jenkins made various estimates of his probable majority over Mr Foot. On Tuesday, one of Mr Jenkins's supporters assumed a majority of 100 yesterday, a session of the Government on against the Government of 25.

The PLP now has to elect 12 members to the parliamentary committee—the Shadow Cabinet. The fascinating element in this is the extent to which Labour MPs register this session of Parliament, they have shown by their voting a degree of stability which has shocked the Left. Mr Wilson as leader, and Mr Mellish as Chief Whip, were re-elected unopposed.

Mr Douglas Houghton, chairman of the party, who deeply offended the anti-Marketisers before the EEC vote, was re-elected with a majority of seven.

In the ballot for 12 members

to the parliamentary committee, for which nominations will be invited today, the Left may hope to increase its voice. Last year, the 12 places were filled by Mr Callaghan (178), Mr Healey (165), Mr Crosland (157), Mr Houghton (150), Mr Benn (133), Mr Foot (124), Mr Bann (123), Mr Short (114), Mr Lever (113), Mr Pearson (107), and Mrs Castle (98).

Until the membership of the parliamentary committee is known it will be impossible to judge how far the PLP has shifted to the Left. So far, a balance has been suggested—right and Left recognising each other's strength—that could save Labour from disruption during the next decade. But the future is full of snags.

How soon, if at all, will Mr Jenkins feel obliged to reassert his support for the principle of British entry into the EEC? If he is forced to do so, he has said that he would have to consider resigning his position as deputy leader. And can the Left admit that at least half of their colleagues in the Commons do not regard entry into the EEC as a sin against the pure spirit of socialism?

The Left were delighted that Mr Foot appeared to be the sole beneficiary of the withdrawal of 30 votes from those Labour MPs who had originally voted for Mr Benn, and Mr Jenkins's failure to gain any of the votes cast for Mr Benn last week are regarded by the Left as reinforcing Labour's case against British entry into the EEC, and supporting those who regard Mr Jenkins as too aloof and too academic.

Following a newspaper story yesterday which suggested that such a dossier did exist, and the charges of brutality levelled against soldiers interrogating IRA suspects, the army issued an interesting photograph last night.

It was taken by a private individual, and showed a man whose back was covered in dozens of large burns which were thought to have been inflicted by a red hot poker. The victim may have been the subject of an IRA court sentence.

Leader comment, page 14: Peter Jenkins, page 15; Norman Shrapnel and Broadcasting heads to meet Home Secretary, back page.

mid-morning barricade on the Lone Moor Road. "There was a long burst of gunfire and this was laid fall to the ground. He was bleeding badly from the stomach," a woman living nearby said.

Immediately a crowd formed around him. Someone called an ambulance, but it was delayed by the complex network of barricades which surrounded the Bogsides and eventually the unconscious child was pushed into the back of a car and driven to hospital.

The army last night denied that it had compiled a specific dossier of atrocities thought to have been committed by the IRA. A senior officer said it had been known for several months that the IRA meted out severe and ugly treatment to informers and those convicted of serious offences in IRA courts.

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Leader comment, page 14: Peter Jenkins, page 15; Norman Shrapnel and Broadcasting heads to meet Home Secretary, back page.

## Tanker turbine blast kills one

By our own Reporter

One man was killed and three injured yesterday when a pump turbine disintegrated in the engine room of an oil tanker undergoing trials in the North Sea.

The injured men were flown by helicopter to Hull Royal Infirmary. The tanker, the Texaco Great Britain, was 85 miles east of Flamborough Head when the accident occurred. It had more than 150 people on board.

One of the injured men was employed by Swan Hunters, the builders, said the accident had not affected the rest of the ship and the trials would continue. It would be investigated by engineers already on board.

All were builders' workers on the ship (35,000 tons deadweight) which is one of the largest to be built at a British yard.

## Ford lay-off 5,000

By JOHN TORODE, Labour Correspondent

Ford has laid off 5,000 workers at its Dagenham plant in a dispute over assembly-line speeds.

Up to last night the company had laid off 1,000 cars valued at approximately £1 million since the dispute began a fortnight ago.

The company told the 200 men on its light-cars trim line that it was to handle 268 cars an hour instead of 263. But the men refused to accept this and "blacked" the six extra cars. On Monday five men were suspended and 200 sent home. Yesterday the lay-offs spilled into paint, assembly, and body shops where about 5,000 workers were sent home.

Ten per cent to lose jobs at British Aluminium, page 17

## Police did not kill

By JOHN TORODE, Labour Correspondent

ONE MAN was killed and another critically injured in an explosion at a light engineering works in Bishop's Cleeve, Shropshire, yesterday. The factory was demolished.

The two men still face assault charges. (Report, page 7).

## Killed by blast

ONE MAN was killed and another critically injured in an explosion at a light engineering works in Bishop's Cleeve, Shropshire, yesterday. The factory was demolished.

## Solvency

UNION Accident Insurance Company which provides cover to 50,000 motorists, has been told by the Government not to take on any new business, or renew policies, but must pay up on present claims. The company was recently asked to provide £100,000 extra to meet the solvency margin.

## Dear Fiancé

I'm counting the days now. Hope your nerves have recovered. Daddy likes you really and he'll soon get used to your long hair. Can we really have a big four-poster with curtains?

Mummy says Daddy will be terribly impressed if you ask him about Selected Period Investment. It's something new from Scottish Provident and Daddy thinks he's the only one who knows about it. She says it's an endowment with no fixed maturity date. So, if you desperately need cash, it's there. Easy to get at. Oh, and you get bonuses too.

Must dash, Mummy's standing me lunch. See you Friday. Don't roar up the drive, Daddy doesn't know you've got a Lotus yet.

All my love, Angela.

Selected Period Investment makes a lot of sense when marriage is on your mind. Here's why. In addition to the usual tax benefits, you get: With-Profit Endowment plus Bonuses to look after the future; Life Assurance to look after the present; plus a Flexible Maturity Date to look after the unexpected. And it's from the experts—Scottish Provident. Ask your broker, or send for our leaflet.

NAME Mr/Ms/Miss  
ADDRESS  
Date of Birth Month/Year/Payments

610  
THE Scottish Provident INSTITUTION  
helps you look ahead with assurance  
6 St Andrew Square, Edinburgh EH2 2YA. Tel: 031-556 1407

## Nation's credit rating filmed

BRITISH Debt Services, which claims to be the largest national credit reference bureau in Europe, has extended its "voter" roll service to all its eight regional offices.

Every voter in Britain is on microfilm records at the company's head office in Manchester, but now firms offering credit will be able to check the names and addresses of

potential clients at their local BDS office. Since the July mini-budget and the relaxations in credit restrictions BDS has experienced a record number of inquiries to its credit reference bureaux. In certain areas, says the company, inquiries from retailers have increased by 16 to 20 per cent.

The voters roll service is designed to provide a "factual, confidential alternative to the use of inquiry agents." At

present it is serving one credit grantor every 10 seconds and, according to the company, helps to overcome the problem created by people ordering goods and giving incorrect names and addresses.

"All we're doing is streamlining something that individual retailers could do themselves," said a spokesman. After paying an initial subscription, companies using the BDS service pay 16p for a

telephone check on an individual's name and address, and a credit rating. Individuals who get missed off the voters roll may find it difficult to obtain credit under the system, but BDS appears to be relying on the efficiency of the local authorities in collecting the

Brian White



## OVERSEAS NEWS

# Israel fears Sadat will decide on war in new year

From WALTER SCHWARZ: Jerusalem, November 17

The possibility of a Middle East war between January and May next year is now being taken seriously here. No Israeli leader expects that President Sadat will be able to claim any significant progress towards a political solution before his new year's eve deadline.

The fear is that he will decide to resume fighting with Soviet approval, as close as possible to President Nixon's visit to Moscow in May.

An official close to Mrs. Meir suggested to me today that the idea behind such a move would be to force the two Super Powers to intervene, stop the fighting and impose a solution to the whole conflict. Such a solution has long seemed the Arabs' best hope and the Israelis' worst fear.

There is no worry about the military outcome of such a war in spite of Israeli claims that the balance of air power has begun to shift against them. It is assumed here that even if the suspension in delivery of Phantoms is still in effect by then the planes could be flown in a few hours (as the official put it) if fighting started.

Even without more Phantoms, Israeli generals have made it clear more than once that contingency plans are sufficient to "surprise" the Egyptians.

The political context, however, could be more serious. Indeed, Cairo's efforts to win by political pressure on Israel is already felt to be making progress. The immediate Israeli worry concerns the implications of the demand for the resumption of the supply of Phantoms — implied when Mr. Rogers publicly contradicted Israel at the weekend by declaring that the balance of power remained unchanged.

The fear is that an understanding between Washington and Moscow may be behind the continued suspension of the shipment of Phantoms, as part of a preliminary harmonisation of positions before the May Summit — which is officially scheduled to include the Middle East in its agenda.

"There are some ominous signs of an emerging understanding between Cairo, Washington and Moscow to get us out of the occupied territories in two stages: first the canal and then the rest," the official said. "This, after all, is what was done in 1958. Only this time we definitely won't play."

It is widely believed here that the Rogers plan of 1969, calling for a complete Israeli withdrawal with only insignificant exceptions, was in fact a Russian plan, "sold" to Mr. Rogers. They fear something of the same kind of diplomacy might be going on now.

However, the Israeli mood is still very far from despair. Mr. Rogers' "No" is not considered final. What he calls the review of the balance of power is in fact still in progress, the official said. "What he did last weekend was to announce the result of a quite separate operation — the 'urgent reconsideration' he promised after President Sadat's visit to Moscow in October."

The Israelis do not claim that since the Moscow visit massive arms have been pouring into Egypt. But they say this is only because Egypt's limited capacity to absorb more than it is getting at the moment. They point out that it is the commitment that matters, that such commitments have in the past been followed by action, and that Israel at present has no such commitment from the US.

The Israeli preoccupation with the supply of Phantoms is not primarily military. The worry is that if Israel is forced to negotiate "under pressure," it will be the beginning of a slippery slope.

Formally Israel is still committed to a partial settlement; but privately they admit they have lost interest in it. The official said it is a mirage because we fancied wrongly that Egypt might be interested in opening the canal for its own sake, with no other advantages; while they thought, equally wrongly, that we might be prepared to pull back from the canal, without getting peace in return, and allowing them to think of it in both military and political terms, as the first step on their recovery of Sinai without negotiations.

By continuing to withhold the Phantoms, Mr. Rogers may be smoothing his path in Moscow and in Cairo. But he has failed to secure the slightest sign of modification in the Israeli position. Israel still refuses to talk in further detail about the position before the May Summit, which is officially scheduled to include the Middle East in its agenda.

The idea of talks "in close proximity" between Israel and Egypt, which Mr. Rogers wants to stage, has made no headway. The Israelis note with satisfaction that the Egyptians, too, have not accepted the invitation.

Israel has not refused to attend, but demanded "clarification" — and these have not been received. On the contrary, the signals from Washington seem to be that Mr. Rogers intends to stick to his "six points" as the ground rules for the talks — and that the supply of Phantoms will neither be resumed nor promised while the talks are on.

To the long run, most Israeli leaders remain confident that American supplies will be resumed. "When trouble really starts, they cannot afford not to start," says one official. "We have Phantoms while the Russians as well as Egyptians, are in the air against us," the senior official told me.

He noted, with evident satisfaction, that 78 out of 100 senators have publicly recommended immediate resumption in the Phantom supply, and that in the foreign aid crisis the Senate went out of its way to exclude Israel from its cuts. Indeed, it granted Israel an unprecedented \$85 million in grants for military purchases, as well as \$300 million in loans — and it went so far as to demand a formal assurance from the State Department that the money would actually be spent on Israel.

The Israelis assume that in the coming weeks Egypt will make little progress in the forthcoming United Nations debate. The impartial approach of the four mediating African Presidents appears to have come as an unwelcome surprise in Cairo, denying Egypt the prospects of solid Afro-Asian support for an extreme resolution.

Instead, the Africans appear to be impressed with the need for a dialogue without preconditions, and it is felt this could conceivably open the way for a return of Dr. Jarring — without his memorandum asking Israel for a prior commitment to total withdrawal.

If there were a chance for another round of Jarring talks without preconditions, it would jump exuberantly at the chance. But the feeling here is that President Sadat still feels he can get more by other means — perhaps including war next spring.

## Peking is leading US on polemics

From Malcolm Dean: United Nations, November 17

The United States appears to have come off worse in the first exchange of criticisms with China at the United Nations.

Many diplomats, including European delegates, were surprised at the tone of the US Ambassador's statement yesterday accusing Mr. Chiao Kuan-hua of "intemperate language" in his maiden speech to the General Assembly on Monday.

They felt it would have been more appropriate for America to have ignored the words of Peking's chief delegate and pass them off as a permissible opening rhetorical flourish.

They noted that China chose to pass an ideal opportunity to attack the US in the Assembly yesterday when a resolution expressing concern over the US Congress's decision to allow President Nixon to authorise chrome imports from Rhodesia, came up for debate and was passed by 166 votes to two.

Instead of condemning her "intemperate language" in the General Assembly debate, US sources today, trying to cover up their embarrassment and concerned to protect the delicate relations with Peking, pointed out that the reply was at a reasonably low level.

It is reliably reported that the US mission wanted to remain silent on the criticism contained in China's opening speech, but as conservative congressmen in Washington began to protest, pressure increased on the Nixon Administration to reply.

After saying there was nothing new in China's "intemperate language," Mr. Bush added: "Without mutual respect and a serious attempt to narrow differences, little can be done to reduce the turmoil in the world and to meet the aspirations of its peoples. The White House or State Department, which would have increased its impact."

China also had her embarrassing moments yesterday. In the special political committee, her representative

misunderstood the meaning of a resolution supported by 82 States on the dissemination of information on South Africa, and found herself opposing the proposal.

The only other opponent was Portugal. China quickly sought, and was granted, permission to switch on her vote.

Mr. Maurice Strong, secretary general of the UN conference on the Human Environment, called today for a "shock treatment" to revitalise the parent body, including reductions of staff of up to 50 per cent in some areas.

He also proposed a new and realistic appraisal of the varying needs and expectations of UN members. The National Foreign Trade Convention in New York that the power to give the UN fresh energy, drive, and dynamism lay in the hands of member governments. Only their will to use it could bring about a strong and effective force.

## US call for penal reform

From our own Correspondent

New York, November 17 — Mr. Donald Goff, member of a state panel trying to protect the rights of inmates after the Attica prison rebellion, has started a study into ways of setting up ombudsmen at all state prisons.

Mr. Goff, director of a private social agency working to improve the administration of criminal justice, believes a procedure for examining grievances in the prisons is needed to prevent a recurrence of violence.

Attica was opened yesterday to the press for the first time since the revolt two months ago, which resulted in the deaths of 31 prisoners and 11 guards.

Six prisoners, representing 46 men who have been confined in Attica's solitary confinement block told reporters that conditions in the prison had deteriorated since the rioting.

They claimed that they had been harassed, threatened, and beaten; that the meals, cause of many of the original complaints, have not improved, and that medical attention was perfunctory.

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## Parliamentary democracy abolished in Thai coup

Bangkok, November 17

The Thai Revolutionary Party, announcing itself as a combination of military and civilian elements, seized full powers here today under the leadership of the Prime Minister, Field-Marshal Thanom Kittikachorn.

In a broadcast on Radio Thailand the party said that it had established the Constitution and Parliament and had disbanded the Cabinet. It accused some factions in the country of trying to change the nation's administration into something "undemocratic."

Justifying the imposition of martial law the party broadcast said: "The current world situation and the increasing threat to the national security required prompt action which is not possible through due process of law under the present Constitution."

The Revolutionary Party carried out a state of emergency throughout the country and prohibited military troop movements without authorisation from the military leaders.

Field-Marshal Thanom, aged 60, who remains Supreme Commander of the Thai armed forces, has been running the country since the death of Field-Marshal Sarit Thanet. He formed a new Government under the Constitution after elections in 1969.

China's admission to the United Nations and Taiwan's expulsion have upset Thailand's western orientation. There have been calls for the establishment of relations with China, for Thai withdrawal from the South-East Asia Treaty Organisation, and for disengagement from the policies of the United States.

Field-Marshal Thanom called at the Royal Palace tonight to explain today's action to the King. He was accompanied by other leaders of the Revolutionary Party, including two former Deputy Prime Ministers, the chief of police, General Prasert Ruchirawang, and the chief of staff, Air Chief Marshal Dawee Chulaprasart.



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## Growing western pressure on Yahya

By PATRICK KEATINGE, Diplomatic Correspondent

Mr. Heath has joined President Nixon, Herr Brandt and other Western leaders in President Yahya. Via embank on a political initiative to solve the crisis in Bengal.

There are signs that Ghandi suggested a "dead end" of two weeks — though he expressed — for the sending these messages, and that Western leaders accepted arguments about the urgent situation.

Officials in London unwilling to be drawn into messages sent to Islamabad was pointed out that there has been continuous contact with the Government of Bangladesh since the political developments into military action in Bengal last March. This case has included exchange of letters between Mr. Heath and President Yahya. But such exchanges will not make public.

Clearly, this has been done to prevent loss of face by India. If it were made known that Western capitals that diplomatic pressures were being exerted on the Pakistani leaders, the process would self-defeating. Dignity we prevent a Pakistani change course, and the danger of might be increased.

Mrs. Ghandi believes that most effective diplomacy would be personal visits by Foreign Ministers, or even Prime Ministers, of Western Governments with the greatest financial and military power, India or Soviet Union. But non-alignment leaders are probably unwilling or unable to act, and the Soviet leaders are unacceptable in the present crisis because of a close link with China.

Reuter reported from New Delhi: Pakistani troops were being sent to the West Bengal, India to have tried to enter Indian territory at Boyra, miles north-east of Calcutta. Reports said they had been ordered to enter the Indian border area.

Observers recently note heavily armed Indian Army troops massed along the border near Boyra.

The Press Trust also reported that a Pakistani party had intruded into the village of Lakhaur, in West Bengal. The Pakistani leader, when an Indian patrol arrived.

The were also reports of shelling of places in all four Indian states bordering East Pakistan.

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## Bakr urges war of liberation

President Bakr of Iraq tonight called for a "people's war of liberation" against Israel. In his fourth press conference since he seized power in a military coup in 1968, the President said Israel could not stop moving towards aggression, and that it "cannot remain with arms folded towards this aggression." They should launch a popular armed struggle.

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Interests of the revolution. He said there would be no political activity within the armed forces "with the exception of the Arab Socialist Ba'ath Party."

This clearly implies that political parties and the press will be allowed to function only if they followed the Ba'ath ideological line.

On the question of oil, President Bakr said Iraq would defend "its legitimate rights" if forthcoming talks with foreign companies broke down.

"The national charter foresees the complete liberation of Iraq's wealth from foreign exploitation. Oil is the country's principal source of wealth and the Iraq Petroleum Company is run by British, American, French and Dutch interests," UPI.

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## TV time for dodger

Melbourne, November 17 — The Attorney-General, Senator Greenwood, today reproached the Australian Broadcasting Commission for "in a sense" assisting a draft dodger to escape.

The reluctant would-be soldier, Michael Matteson, aged 24, has been evading the police for several months, appeared last night in Sydney on an ABC television programme on which Senator Greenwood also spoke from Canberra.

After learning of Matteson's whereabouts the Senator telephoned Sydney police but when six policemen arrived at the studio their man had gone.

ABC, which operates under a licence from the ABC, explained today that it did not help or hinder Matteson's departure. Senator Greenwood said it was "most inappropriate" for ABC to interview Matteson.

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## Bar students behind bars

The argument of the Rhodesian white hard liners that the local Africans are not sufficiently developed to benefit from Western style education is challenged by what is going on in the detention camps and prison cells of Rhodesia.

There are 517 African political prisoners and detainees studying through correspondence courses, everything from pig keeping to master of laws degrees.

Two of the former African political prisoners who saw Sir Alec Douglas-Home yesterday qualified while behind barbed wire and bars — Mr. Edson Sithole as a barrister, and Mr. Cephas Masipa as a BA of the University of South Africa.

One of the detainees in the Salisbury Remand and Holding Prison, Mr. E. J. M. Zvobgo, recently passed his Bar examination.

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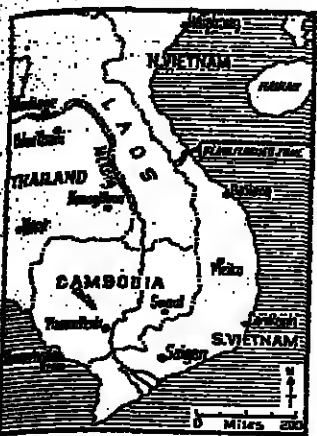
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## Hanoi fire on Phnom Penh road

Phnom Penh, November 17 North Vietnamese forces were said to be converging on Phnom Penh today in what was an effort to seize or isolate the capital. About 200 troops had been killed in attacks by US aircraft.

Cambodian field officers directing operations at Tuol Leap, 12 miles south-west of the city, said they had identified their opponents as the 101st North Vietnamese Regiment, estimated to be 1,000 strong.

Military analysts were not predicting an attempt to overrun Phnom Penh, however. They favoured the theory that the offensive was "to create a sensation abroad and panic within."

They pointed out that although the North Vietnamese had the capability, no rockets had yet fallen on the city. The troop movements were designed to isolate the capital and further slash the Government's column of troops running north from Phnom Penh along Highway 6.

While Government reinforcements poured into the city four Russian-made 122mm rockets were fired into its airport, one hitting the airfield and another wounding four people.

**Squadron**  
A squadron of Government tanks went to a point south-west of the city and fresh troops were setting up camp on the city's outskirts. Soldiers dug trenches on the lawns of the university midway between the city centre and the airport.

In Vietnam, American helicopter gunships killed 28 North Vietnamese in an attack in the jungles of the Central Highlands, near the borders of South Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia, the US Command said. — UPI

## Seven in ship feared lost

One seaman died and six others were feared lost yesterday when the freighter, Brise One (994 tons) sank in heavy seas between the Danish island of Bornholm and the Swedish south coast. The three remaining members of the crew, including the West German captain, scrambled on to a raft and were picked up by a Danish helicopter.

The ship, registered in West Germany, was sailing under the Cypriot flag.

**WHEN** President Nixon rose to acknowledge the cheers of the faithful in Chicago last week, each of whom had paid \$500 to hear his speech, a small pudgy man with the face of a devoted, bull frog stood proudly by the President's side. As the Republican Party's largest single campaign contributor in 1968, Mr. Clement Stone, a multi-millionaire insurance tycoon, who seeks nothing, he says, except good government, had earned his place of honour. "If a family has wealth in the neighbourhood of \$400 million," he muses, "what's a million in political gifts?"

Few of the fat cats of either party are so easily satisfied or so cheaply bought off and in that fact lies the most corrupting force in American politics today. This week Congress is re-examining the corrosive influence of private wealth on the elec-

toral process and the conduct, and possibly the results, of next year's presidential elections could well depend on whether it acts to remedy what is widely recognised as a growing scandal.

Influence peddling is not the whole story, though that explains why the oil industry bought \$20,000 worth of tickets to last week's dinner, or why nearly all American Ambassadors are such large party contributors. It is rather that politics in America is becoming the preserve of the super rich or those with ready access to vast sums of money.

"The rich don't buy race-horses or Mondrians so much any more — they invest in politicians," one union official noted after 60 millionaires

met recently in New York and agreed that presidential candidates should commit themselves to specific political objectives in return for campaign contributions. If that seems dangerous, the situation is made worse because mostly large political contributors are able to give in total secrecy because of gaping loopholes in legislation requiring full disclosure of political gifts.

At the heart of the problem, of course, are the staggering costs of running for political office because of mounting outlays on television and radio advertising and the total lack of effective controls. In the nation's seven

largest States to 1970, for example, 11 of the 15 Senate candidates were millionaires and it is not surprising that all the non-millionaires were defeated.

If the Senate races are expensive, presidential contests are astronomically dear. The Republican campaign in 1968 spent more than \$3.5 million (\$1.4 million) simply to raise more money and the total costs of the Nixon campaign were more than \$25 million (\$10 million). About half of this was absorbed by television and radio advertising — the selling of the President cannot be done on the cheap. In contrast, the Democrats spent

only \$10 million (\$4 million) of which \$6 million (\$2.5 million) went on television and radio. There are those who still claim that with a better-financed campaign or stricter legislative controls, Mr. Humphrey would now be in the White House.

Unfortunately this fear of upsetting the existing balance of forces that stands in one of the two obstacles to tangible reform legislation, particularly as those who will vote are the very products of the system. After Mr. Nixon's veto of a measure aimed solely at television and radio expenditure, the Senate this summer passed a new Bill with relatively strict spending restric-

tions of 10 cents per voter for both television and poster advertising, and with a clause to allow television stations to give free time to major political candidates. But the Bill now faces a tough test in the House which appears intent on passing its own far less ambitious version of reform.

The Democrats, aware of the relative paucity of their 1968 campaign coffers, have the more compelling reasons for seeking equal reform. And they have now suggested in the Senate that each major Party should be provided with \$20.4 million (\$8.5 million) by the American taxpayer.

If the Democratic suggestion were adopted every taxpayer would have the option of setting aside \$1 of his taxes (\$2 for a husband and wife) for a special fund. It is estimated that the fund would be large enough to provide \$46 million (\$18 million) for both main parties and for a "third party" campaign. Putting it in party terms the Democrats would be assured of a \$20 million campaign kitty. What, if anything, emerges this week in Congress is vital to the health of American politics. Already the exorbitant costs of campaigning have taken their first casualty in Senator Harris, whose new populist campaign founded on a debt of \$40,000 (£16,000) after less than seven weeks.

# Public disquiet over private purse strings

From Adam Raphael: Washington, November 17

## Zambia ready to protect reserves

From our Correspondent: Lusaka, November 17

President Kaunda is expected to announce drastic new economic measures soon because of the impact on Zambia of a decline in the world price of copper. This has been neglected in a sharp fall

in the country's foreign reserves. The Government newspaper, the "Zambia Daily Mail," today quoted the Finance Minister, Mr. Mwanakatwe as saying that plans to meet the situation had already been worked out and would shortly be implemented. It is thought that import curbs and tighter exchange controls may be introduced.

The reserves have fallen from a September 1970 figure of about \$240 million, to £130 million in September this year. An abnormally steep fall of nearly \$24 million occurred between August and September this year.

Zambia's export earnings depend on copper and the price of copper wire bars on the London Metal Exchange has fallen from more than £500 a ton 18 months ago to £220 a ton recently.

Mr. Mwanakatwe also attributed difficulties to the heavy payments being made for maize which is being imported to stave off food shortages, to Government payments for its 51 per cent holding in the copper industry, and to heavy transport costs on capital and consumer imports.

He repeated an earlier appeal in the World Bank to make funds available for the purchase of huffer stocks of copper to reduce the supply on world markets and to increase demand.

The country now faces the prospect of an awkward downturn in the economy at a particularly awkward juncture. This is because Zambia is due next year to launch its second development plan which has already been drastically pruned. At the same time large numbers of Zambians are coming on to the labour market from the expanded education system.

## Tito travels

President Tito is to visit Russia on Tuesday to brief President Brezhnev on Mr. Brezhnev's recent visit to Yugoslavia and his country's future relations with the Soviet Union. The pair will also discuss the international situation with emphasis on the rift within the Communist block, sources said.



Fidel Castro wears a safety helmet on his visit to the Iquique city docks during his Chilean tour

## Mitterrand praises Allende regime

From NESTA ROBERTS: Paris, November 17

Mr. Francois Mitterrand, leader of the French Socialist Party, said today after returning from Chile that life there was "perfectly free". He had paid a week's visit with M. Gaston Defferre, president of the Socialist group in the National Assembly, and M. Claude Estier, secretary of the Socialist Party.

M. Mitterrand admitted it would be presumptuous to draw final conclusions on the Allende experiment after so short a stay. Nevertheless, his programme had been carried out, and the engagements under-

taken in the framework of the Constitution respected. The action of the six parties grouped to exercise power, and build up a Socialist regime, was carried out with democratic guarantees, a reassuring phenomenon for French Socialists. Nationalisation had two aims: to rid Chile of foreign attachments and to suppress monopolies.

No political detainee was in prison, the press could write what it wished, and opponents of the regime spoke with a vigour unknown in France.

## Iceland 'imposed quota on blacks'

From GEORGE C. WILSON: Washington, November 17

The black caucus of the House of Representatives released classified papers yesterday documenting the official discussions which shaped the policy of restricting the number of United States black servicemen sent to Iceland. The co-chairman of the caucus, Shirley Chisholm, said the secret material showed that "racism has become institutionalised at all levels of the military."

Representative Ronald V. Dellums, the other co-chairman, said that the caucus had heard that the Governments of West Germany, Greece, and Turkey had demanded the same kind of restrictive assignment procedure for black servicemen. He added that the caucus had not obtained the policy paper it is seeking to enable it to document the charge.

The Defence Secretary, Mr. Laird, asked about the alleged quota system for Iceland, said he had not had a chance to study the document and could not comment.

There are about 3,000 servicemen now stationed in Iceland, but the number of blacks is not immediately known. Leave in Iceland has long been restricted for both blacks and whites, in the hope of avoiding unpleasant incidents between servicemen and the Icelandic population.

In the Middle East, American commanders have, in the past, forbidden Jewish officers and men from going on leave in Arab countries for fear of provoking incidents. The political climate in the host country traditionally has influenced Pentagon personnel policies.

The caucus released a letter classified "secret" and two memos classified "confidential." These indicated that: Iceland, before 1961, objected to American black servicemen being based there but relented later to allow a token number into the country; the State and Defence Departments decided not to disclose the quota system for Iceland; the Icelandic Government said it would not contradict US Government assertions that "there are no racial or other restrictions covering the assignment of servicemen to Iceland."

William C. Burdett, the acting deputy assistant sec-

retary for European affairs, said in the "secret" letter dated August 11, 1961, that the Icelandic Government had changed its position from one of allowing no black servicemen into Iceland, to "no objections to three or four coloured servicemen in the defence force."

The same letter said of the Icelandic Government's position on public statements about the quota system: "If there are congressional or other inquiries to which the (State) Department must reply, the Icelandic Government will not object to a statement to the effect that, because of the small population and other special circumstances existing in Iceland, members of the Iceland Defence Command are especially picked but there are no racial or other restrictions and, in fact, Americans of all races are currently serving with the command in Iceland." — Washington Post.

● A report today to the congressional hearing on military racial policies said that black servicemen "are already talking in terms of revolution and some type of violence is inevitable."

Thaddeus Garrett jun., assistant to Representative Chisholm, drafted the report after a six-week tour of US military bases abroad.

## Additional guards for Soviet UN mission

United Nations (NY), November 17

Additional UN policemen are protecting the Soviet mission to the United Nations after an incident on October 20 in which four rifle shots were fired into the mission from the roof of a nearby college.

But Russian officials have barred police from the roof of the building, even to look for sites where they could set up other security points. Mr. George Bush, US permanent representative to the UN, told

the UN Secretary-General that 53 patrolmen and four sergeants were now sharing a 24-hour guard.

Two men equipped with walkie-talkies, radios, high-powered rifles, and night-vision binoculars, also took up positions daily on various rooftops with a view of the area.

The day after the shooting, Isaac Jaroslowicz (18) was arrested and later charged with having a false military draft card and giving false identification when purchasing a rifle. He was released on bail. — Reuter.



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Abbey National Building Society, Abbey House, Baker Street, London NW1 6XL Telephone: 01-486 5555.









## HOME NEWS

### Use of student funds disputed

Proposals to make donations of the funds of Sussex University's Students' Union in support of Bangladesh and to fight the abolition of free milk for children over seven, were considered in the High Court yesterday.

Anthony Brian Balory, a student and former chairman of the university's Conservative Association, asked for an order against the union's officers banning such use of the union's funds.

Mr John Waite, for Mr Balory, said that students at the university automatically became members of the union, under the 1962 Education Act, and that the union's income for the present academic year was more than £10,000.

The officers who administered the funds did not include a teaching member of the university, which she resigned during the last academic year at the request of her colleagues on the student council.

### Beyond union

Mr Balory contended that the proposed payments were beyond the powers of the union's constitution. He sued Mr David Feinick, the union's president; Mr Christopher Bosley, the treasurer; Mr Robert Gordon, the chairman of the union's council; and Mr Raymond Howard, a university finance officer.

Mr Waite said the budget which included the proposals was preceded by a circular which announced an intention to amend the constitution by altering the union's objects clause to remove its specific objects and substitute a general one.

The annual general meeting took place on October 21. It was common ground that the meeting was adjourned, but the defendants said that the change of the constitution had been effected.

He submitted that even if the new constitution of the union was valid, its aims—"to promote any matter whatsoever of interest to its members"—were so wide as to be meaningless.

The hearing continues today.

### Wines of the world

Hungarian Gahor Dry Riesling, José Magyar and Magyar Riesling are shipped by Edouard Robinson and not P. & E. May as stated in the Guardian special report, "Wines of the World," published on November 16. Castle Poma and Ederra Rioja are shipped by Clode and Baker and not Rawlings & Sons (London).

### Airports' offer of 7pc could be the 'norm'

By KEITH HARPER

A pay offer yesterday of £1.75 a week for low paid workers employed by the British Airports' Authority could set the pattern for settlement in the public sector this winter.

The overall offer to 4,000 employees of the authority represents an increase of 7 per cent on basic rates, though the lower paid workers will stand to gain 8½ per cent. Workers on the lower grades will have their basic pay raised from £19.83 to £21.58 a week. Those on the top grade will be raised from £29.85 to £31.94.

The unions have not accepted the offer but are placing it before their members. Mr John Cousins, national secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union, said last night that he would be recommending acceptance.

The negotiation is likely to affect wage talks for atomic energy, local government, electricity supply, and gas industries. The 900,000 local authority manual workers have

been offered increases of £1.20 a week. If they were offered another 50p for those on the lower grades they might be prepared to accept.

Figures issued by the Department of Employment today show that average earnings in the end of September were 10.8 per cent up on the previous 12 months.

Very little can be attached to this figure. A slight downward trend is evident from comparable figures for the past six months. If anything, today's statistics show that settlements have been much higher than the Government "norm" of 7 to 8 per cent.

### CBI advice on Moslem festival

By our own Reporter

Employers all over Britain have been advised by the Confederation of British Industry to turn up tomorrow. The feast

of Id-ul-Fitr, marking the end of the penitential month of Ramadan, depends for the precise timing of its observance on sightings of the moon.

If the moon has been reported seen in three Moslem countries then the feast falls tomorrow, if not it will be held on Saturday.

The letter has been sent out to the CBI's 100 regional offices. The CBI said: "Although the festival date is imprecise and is annoying from the employers' point of view, we feel that all managements employing Moslems should make themselves aware of their religious beliefs and respect them. In the past certain employers have found themselves caught on the wrong foot when shift workers have suddenly gone missing."

Newspapers and regional broadcasting stations have been asked, in areas of high Moslem concentration, to put out advance notices about Id-ul-Fitr.

Difficulties have arisen in some factories over absenteeism for unannounced religious reasons. Last year West Riding firms were asked to give their Moslem workers a half-day to avert a repetition of previous dismissals. Redland Bricks Ltd, of Peterborough, has provided a bus to take workers for prayers at the local Mosque—as an alternative to an unofficial strike.

There are some 200,000 Moslem immigrants in Britain, mostly from India and Pakistan.

### Court tells writer to stop libel

A claim by Mr Robert Bryans, a travel writer, that he was injured in libelling his publishers because he believed they were cheating him, was wrong because his allegations were unfounded or baseless, Mr Justice Swanwick said in the High Court yesterday.

The judge granted the publishers, Faber and Faber Ltd, and its directors, permanent injunctions against Mr Bryans to stop him publishing further libels.

The libels were contained in two documents. One, entitled "Warning to Aspiring Writers," was circulated to the junior common rooms of three Oxford colleges. The other referred to a letter sent by Mr Bryans to the firm's warehouse at Harlow, Essex. It suggested that he and the firm had a business association, and went on to solicit investment in a non-existent firm.



THE FIRST production model of the Hillman Minx (above) of 1932 sold for £42 at an auction at Hemsworth, Yorkshire yesterday. When new it cost £155. It still bears the manufacturer's plate showing Car No. M1, chassis No. M1, engine No. 1.

By our own Reporter

car quietness" and "the car with the cushioned power." It became the forerunner of a Minx series that was to last for 38 years until Chrysler dropped the name for its Hillman Hunter.

Chrysler UK said that the car, KV760, may be the first production model, but there

were prototypes before that. "Old Billy Rootes, later Lord Rootes, drove one for thousands of miles in Europe and North Africa," said a spokesman.

Chrysler was not interested in buying KV760. It sold the collection of early cars inherited from Rootes because it felt they would be put to better use in private hands.

### Value of 'stand-in' mother

THE LESSONS from the remarkable documentary film "John" are considered so important that it is now being shown to prison and psychiatric welfare workers as an example of how an institution can destroy a personality.

John was a baby aged 17 months in a well-meaning residential nursery while his mother had another baby; and hospitals and child welfare departments are accused of not learning the lessons distressingly shown.

"John" was shot over nine days by James and Joyce Robertson, child guidance researchers. They showed the personality of the little boy being virtually destroyed because the kind young nurses worked in shifts and had no individual responsibility for particular children.

John was unable to find any mother substitute apart from a large teddy bear and by the time his real mother came for him he was withdrawn and his personality damaged.

Mr Robertson said yesterday: "Children's hospitals and nurseries know all about the problem but they seem fatalistic about it. The system of fragmented care persists on a wide scale."

At the Tavistock Institute for Human Relations in London yesterday the Robertsons gave the first showing of a

documentary film about a foster child of two years, Thomas. It is the second of this nature.

The film, shot by Mr Robertson with a hand-held camera, shows that separation is more difficult when the child has some understanding of what is happening. He needs his foster mother's care but accepting it puts him into conflict because it makes him feel disloyal to his absent mother.

But in his 10 days with the Robertsons, Thomas plainly supports the couple's belief that separated children need a definite mother substitute.

Malcolm Stuart

## Ministry talks on toolroom dispute

By GEOFFREY WHITELEY

Officials from the Department of Employment will today meet union officials and employers for talks about the dispute over the Coventry Toolroom Agreement, which is threatening widespread disruption across the Midlands car and engineering industries next week.

But it seemed unlikely last night that the talks would lead to a last-minute settlement of the impending strike by 8,000 toolroom workers, due to start tomorrow.

The Department was at pains yesterday to emphasise that neither Mr Carr, the Secretary for Employment, nor his officials, were seeking to intervene in the dispute at this stage. The Department had simply asked the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers — to which the toolroom workers belong — and then the employers' association, to express their views separately so that Mr Carr could keep himself informed.

Mr Carr faced some hostile questions about the dispute when he told the Commons yesterday about his Department's decision to talk to both sides. He told the House he was

"seriously concerned" about the possible effects, and Mr Maurice Edelman (Lab, Coventry North) said there was a general desire in the area to see a just settlement because of the "potentially disastrous situation" involving the jobs of about a hundred thousand workers.

Mr Eric Heffer (Lab, Walton) said the toolroom men had been "shabbily treated," and suggested that the employers had been put under pressure by the Government to cancel the wages agreement. Mr Carr denied this, but then faced criticism from Mr Stanley Orme (Lab, Salford West) for failing to condemn the employers for arbitrarily cancelling an agreement.

### Questions

Mr Carr replied by accusing Mr Orme of being more concerned with "stirring up trouble than with solving it." He declined to be drawn into discussion about the merits of the dispute.

The Department will intervene in the dispute only if, as a result of today's talks, it feels it can serve a useful purpose by bringing the two sides together under the chairmanship of its own officials. The decision to call in both sides for explanatory talks, it feels, can serve a useful purpose by bringing the two sides together under the chairmanship of its own officials. The decision to call in both sides for explanatory talks, it feels, can serve a useful purpose by bringing the two sides together under the chairmanship of its own officials.

It follows the announcement, by the national executive of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers on Tuesday, that an official stoppage of toolroom workers in Coventry was being called.

Shop stewards representing the city's toolroom workers are to meet this evening to complete their arrangements for the strike, which is expected to begin at the end of normal working shifts tomorrow. Firms in the area have predicted highly-damaging effects, and it has been estimated that about 100,000 other workers might eventually have to be laid off.

### A problem

The AUEW was presented yesterday with an unexpected problem over the dispute. The Department of Employment in Coventry announced that unemployment benefit, which would normally be paid to workers made idle because of a dispute, would be withheld. A Department spokesman explained that under the National Insurance Acts, a worker had to satisfy three requirements before he qualified for benefits.

These were that he was not taking part in the dispute, did not stand to benefit from it, nor was he financing it. These regulations presumably put in question the right of other AUEW members in Coventry to draw unemployment benefit even though they may be unconnected with the toolroom workers' dispute.



Dame Gladys Cooper

## Gladys Cooper dies at 82

Dame Gladys Cooper, the actress who transcended her early reputation as an Edwardian beauty and became one of the most durable of light comedy actresses, died during Tuesday night. She was 82 and had been ill for more than two months with pneumonia.

Like her contemporary Dame Sybil Thorndike, Gladys Cooper scornfully refused to let old age wither her infinite appetite for hard work, or diminish a commanding presence on stage. Earlier this year she had appeared with great effect in London in a revival of the "Chalk Garden." It brought to a bright conclusion her successive portraits of outrageous old women who used age as a weapon and an excuse for resilient individuality.

Her career was unusual in the way it progressed from its beginnings as a Gaiety Girl in George Edwards' chorus at the

Gaiety and Daly's, Somerset Maugham, in many of whose plays she later appeared, met her in 1910 and said: "She was the loveliest thing I've seen in my life."

But she graduated from being an idolised face on a poster to the actress who in 1914 entertained the troops on the Western Front in Seymour Hicks' concert party. Through her early appearances in the

Her appearances in the first three decades of the century, when the London stage was crisscrossed with much musical frivolity and the most evanescent light comedies, nevertheless enhanced her reputation. Treading fearlessly in the steps of Mrs Patrick Campbell she was admired as Paula in "The Second Mrs Tanqueray," and as Peter Pan.

She became a successful businesswoman as the manager of the London Playhouse, choosing plays with a capacity for understanding the tastes of the audience. Her first production as an actress-manager was Maugham's "The Letter." She had only £400 to back her. Her profit was £4,000.

A career as a film actress in Hollywood, which began at the end of the 1930s, lasted nearly 30 years and she brought to the screen the same qualities of alert professionalism seen

### OBITUARY

1911 revival as Cecily in "The Importance of Being Earnest" and as Violet Robinson in Shaw's "Man and Superman"—plus the influence of Charles Hawtrey, Sir Gerald du Maurier and Seymour Hicks—she had the chance to escape the restrictions of being beautiful alone.

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# WILLIAMS & GLYN'S BANK



# Sadler's Wells seeks £300,000 to stay open

By EDWARD GREENFIELD

The Sadler's Wells Theatre is Rosebery Avenue is threatened with closure within the next year unless substantial help is found. An appeal was launched yesterday. The theatre wants a total of £300,000 over the next seven years, £50,000 of it during the next year.

This is the second time within 10 months that the governors of Sadler's Wells have expressed fears for the future. Last February they promised to approach the Arts Council and London local authorities for help. But with estimates for 1971-2 well advanced, the response was poor. The Arts Council refused help for the year, and only one local authority, Islington, where the theatre is situated, offered practical help—£3,000.

This time the appeal goes far wider. A professional appeals organiser has been brought in, and a Friends of Sadler's Wells Society is to be set up for those who contribute regularly to the theatre. The governors feel that if they can demonstrate to the Arts Council that they have done their utmost to obtain outside help, their chances of public support will increase. Mr David McKenna, the chairman pointed out that the Arts Council had supported a particular theatre before, rather than a company. He instanced the New Theatre in Cardiff, and the Theatre Royal in Newcastle.

The Arts Council's report on opera and ballet urged that Sadler's Wells Theatre should be allowed to continue its valuable work in providing a home for various visiting companies, from the English Opera Group and the D'Oyly Carte company to the Little Angels of Korea. The irony is that though the theatre's financial problems are now more acute than ever, the programme has been rapidly expanding. The theatre will have been opened during the current financial year for 45 weeks, compared with only 33 weeks in 1970-1. Next year the theatre will be used for 48 weeks.

Promises of £10,000 have been made for the appeal fund.

# Offer of talks on poverty in Ulster

By our own Reporter

The Stormont Minister of Community Relations, Mr Basil McEvoy, has offered to meet a deputation from the Child Poverty Action Group to discuss any hardship being caused to children, women, and old people in Northern Ireland.

Emergency procedures, such as evacuation of trouble spots, and special facilities to relieve tension and hardship were suggested by the group's chairman, Professor Peter Townsend, to both Stormont and the IRA Provisionals.

But Mr McEvoy's reply to Professor Townsend made it clear that Stormont was "not prepared to enter into discussions with or sponsor directly or indirectly talks with the IRA terrorists for their aim is quite simply to destroy the existence of the State."

Mr McEvoy said that some of the group's situations were more relevant to a pitched battle type of situation which had existed for a few days last August but did not now. Nevertheless the group's points might be useful for contingency planning.

# Fight to stave off schools peril

From John Ezard in Belfast

The Northern Ireland Government is urgently considering appointing a working party to find ways of "assuaging the tragedy" of children at schools in riot areas. It is convinced that the precarious normality, which teachers have been struggling to maintain, is beginning to crack because of the length of the crisis.

There is concern at least one Belfast primary school about the incidence of weeping, vomiting, and reversion to incontinence in the classrooms. At secondary schools with good academic records there is worry about the rate of absenteeism and lethargy among junior pupils — in some cases, because of involvement in late night street incidents — and about the effects of allegedly haphazard army or police interregation of their older examination pupils. London-derry is thought to have the worst problems.

A senior education official said: "Four weeks ago, I would have said there was no problem. In that time, however, so many reports have come in from schools indicating that we are beginning to lose the fight, which teachers have been carrying on so marvellously, for normality in schools."

Tension is increasing, and some schools are ceasing to be the haven from anxiety that they used to be.

About 24 primary and secondary schools, with a total population of 3,000 to 5,000 children, are regarded as worst hit. They are not at present being named, at the request of headmasters and the Ministry of Education.

Some senior educationists emphasise that any working party will not seek a swift, superficial solution at the expense of devising a long-term programme for the recovery of the province's youth. As already foreshadowed, Captain Long simultaneously announced a "modest but significant" doubling of nursery education, from 23 to about 50 schools, within the next few years at the latest. Concentrated in London-derry, Belfast, Armagh, and Newry, or other "area where there has been a disturbed environment for children," this expansion will raise Ulster nursery spending to about £1 million a year. Captain Long said he was willing to use mobile or temporary classrooms, and to approve permanent buildings just as we reach the planning and tendering stage. The project could be finished within three years.

Mr Blaney said he still considered himself a member of the Fianna Fail and stressed he had been with the party 23 years and did not have any regrets. He said he was bitter at the result of the vote but said: "After 23 years, I am old. I am no longer a young man. I had expected support that he had received, and was pleased to see Mr Blaney and Mr did not result in any more than three abstained, including two. Parliam Secretaries, and two absent but were excused."

"I know the Cabinet provide money for any come the tragedy and done by the present tion," he added.

Asked whether he ex the new nursery school religiously desegregate said: "I think so, by very nature."

# Two Fianna Fail deputies expelled

By our Correspondent

Mr Neil Blaney, the former Minister for Agriculture, and Mr Paudge Brennan, a former Parliamentary Secretary, were expelled yesterday from the parliamentary party of Fianna Fail — the ruling party in the Irish Republic — on a motion put forward by the Prime Minister, Mr Lynch.

Two weeks ago, before a vote on a motion of no confidence in one of his Ministers, Mr Lynch threatened to put such a motion before the party if there were any rebels.

The expulsion of the deputies means that Fianna Fail no longer has an overall majority. Its representation is now reduced to 70, including the Speaker, compared with a total of 74 Opposition deputies — Fine Gael, Labour, and Independent. The Government will have to rely on the support of independents and on the two deputies it has expelled.

It looks as though Mr Lynch will be able to hold on because after his expulsion Mr Blaney said he would continue to support the Government on all but two issues — one involving any future motion concerning the Minister of Agriculture, Mr James Gibbons, and the other on the Government's Northern policy, which he said did not exist.

It was on the Opposition motion of no confidence in Mr Speaker, compared with a total of 74 Opposition deputies — Fine Gael, Labour, and Independent. The Government will have to rely on the support of independents and on the two deputies it has expelled.

Gibbons for allegedly misleading the Dail a year ago at the time of the arms crisis that led to the resignation of the Prime Minister's warning.

Yesterday, after a meeting lasting 90 minutes, 58 members of the Fianna Fail parliamentary party supported the motion for expulsion, eight, including the former Minister, Mr Lynch, Mr Charles Haughey, Mr James Gibbons, and the other three abstained, including two. Parliam Secretaries, and two absent but were excused."

Mr Blaney said he still considered himself a member of the Fianna Fail and stressed he had been with the party 23 years and did not have any regrets. He said he was bitter at the result of the vote but said: "After 23 years, I am old. I am no longer a young man. I had expected support that he had received, and was pleased to see Mr Blaney and Mr did not result in any more than three abstained, including two. Parliam Secretaries, and two absent but were excused."

# Freeman backs ITV-2 channel

By our Correspondent

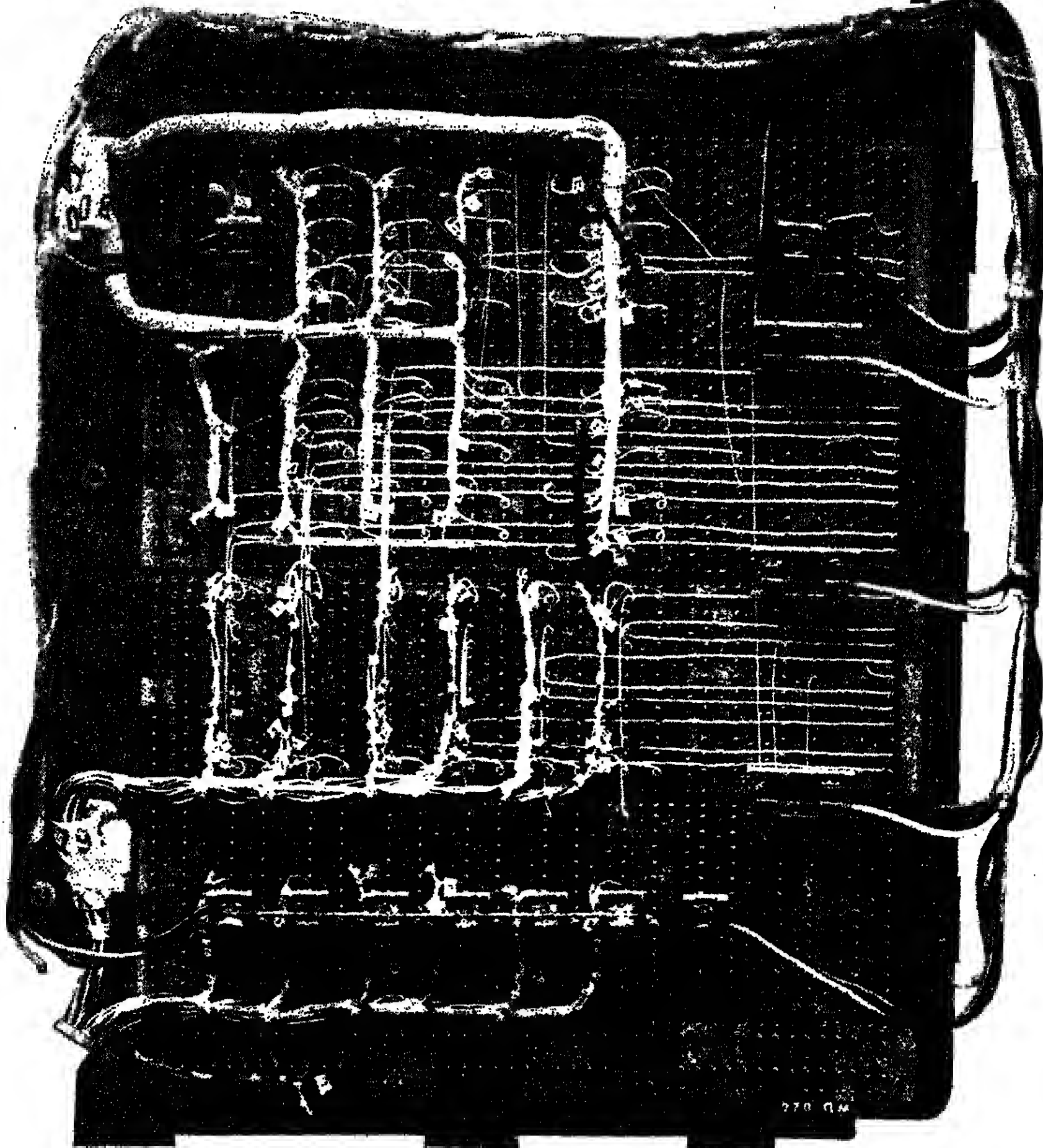
Support for a second ITV channel came yesterday from Mr John Freeman, chairman of London Weekend Television, though he said he could not foresee the time when it would do better than break even. For some years it would almost certainly run at a loss.

Speaking about the direct effect of a second channel on London Weekend, Mr Freeman said: "It would help us to break out of the straitjacket of the 24-hour franchise—to the benefit, believe it or not, of the viewers and the creative talent we should like to use more fully." It would also help London Weekend to do, without a massive loss of revenue, some of the things it wanted to do.

Mr Freeman asked to be for over the need for extra

over the need for extra

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### NOTICES

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مكتبة علم



# Judge clears two policemen of killing vagrant

BY OUR CORRESPONDENT

A former police inspector, Geoffrey Ellerker, and Sergeant Kenneth Kitching, were cleared at Leeds Assizes yesterday of the manslaughter of a Nigerian vagrant, Mr David Oluwale.

Mr Justice Hinchcliffe said he would direct the jury to return a verdict of not guilty. He would give similar directions on charges against both men of causing grievous bodily harm and committing perjury. A further submission by Mr Gilbert Gray, QC, for Kitching, that there was no case to answer on an assault charge was rejected.

## Sick hit by race Bill

By our own Reporter

Psychiatrists fear that a clause in the Immigration Bill allowing deportation of an immigrant suffering from mental illness will deter immigrants from seeking voluntary treatment.

Yesterday 176 members of the staff of the Maudsley Hospital, London, including most of the consultants, signed a petition to Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary for the Social Services, asking him not to implement the clause when the Bill becomes law.

Clause 30 also provides for the deportation of the family of the mental patient as well. Dr Michael Radford, a registrar at the Maudsley, who organised the petition, said yesterday: "The Bill makes absolutely no mention of whether this clause applies to people receiving voluntary or compulsory treatment. If this remains unclear it is obvious that an immigrant who perhaps suffers from a breakdown will obviously be most reluctant to seek help."

"It is remarkable that in 1971 we should be equating mental illness with criminal behaviour which is the only other clause permitting deportation of a person suspected to settle here. It is going back 100 years."

With black people already beginning to feel persecuted they might well conclude that notification of mental illness could mean their whole family being thrown out.

Dr Radford went on: "None of the medical bodies that are supposed to represent us has done anything about this so we have decided to send up this petition ourselves. This hospital was founded to provide early and voluntary treatment of psychiatric disorders so we should be the people to protest about this clause."

Mr John Cobb, QC, prosecuting, had alleged that Ellerker (38) and Kitching (49) hounded and harassed Mr Oluwale to his death by drowning in April, 1969.

In his judgment on the manslaughter charge, the judge said he had given the most anxious consideration to the evidence, particularly that of Mr David Condon and Mr George Merrion. "I am driven to the conclusion that there is no evidence that Oluwale was at the scene of the crime. There is no positive evidence that the accused men were ever at the scene of the crime."

**A 'clear view'**  
"It seems to me that a clear view of the evidence is that two unidentified men were talking to an unidentified male person. The evidence that the two men were talking to a person is not satisfactory."

"Mr Condon and Mr Merrion are men certainly of integrity and I am satisfied that they genuinely believe what they now say is the truth. But each has made previous statements differing in their content."

"There is no evidence at all of how he came to be in the river, or if he went in the river at Warehouse Hill, or that he met his death on April 18. Nor is there any evidence that anyone was guilty of an unlawful act."

"It is my duty as a judge to ensure that no one shall run the risk of being convicted on suspicion, rumour, and gossip."

Of the grievous bodily harm charge, the judge said: "In view of the medical evidence and indeed other evidence I accept the submission that the prosecution has failed to prove that Oluwale sustained any grievous bodily harm."

Of the perjury charge, he stated that the prosecution had failed to prove that the police officers made a statement other than that which was material in the trial of Mr Oluwale for assault.

Ellerker, of Church Lane, Horsforth, now faces six charges of assault and Kitching, of Blakeney Grove, Leeds, faces five charges of assault. Both men have denied all charges.

Earlier, in his submission on the manslaughter charge, Mr Gray said: "Nobody knows the circumstances of Oluwale's guing

in the river, assuming he went in at Warehouse Hill. It could have been manslaughter, it could have been a series of accidents, it could have been gross negligence by officers not fishing him out, it could have been suicide, and it could have been a man swimming away and sinking."

Mr Basil Wigoder, QC, for Ellerker, also submitted there was not sufficient evidence for a jury. There was no evidence that the man seen being chased by two police officers early on April 18 was Mr Oluwale.

Mr Cobb said it would not be right to stop the manslaughter case at this stage. Two witnesses talked of a chase by two police officers, one in a flat cap and one in a helmet. Kitching generally wore a helmet. "All the police in Leeds City Police area who worked on night duty in uniform are accounted for except Ellerker and Kitching."

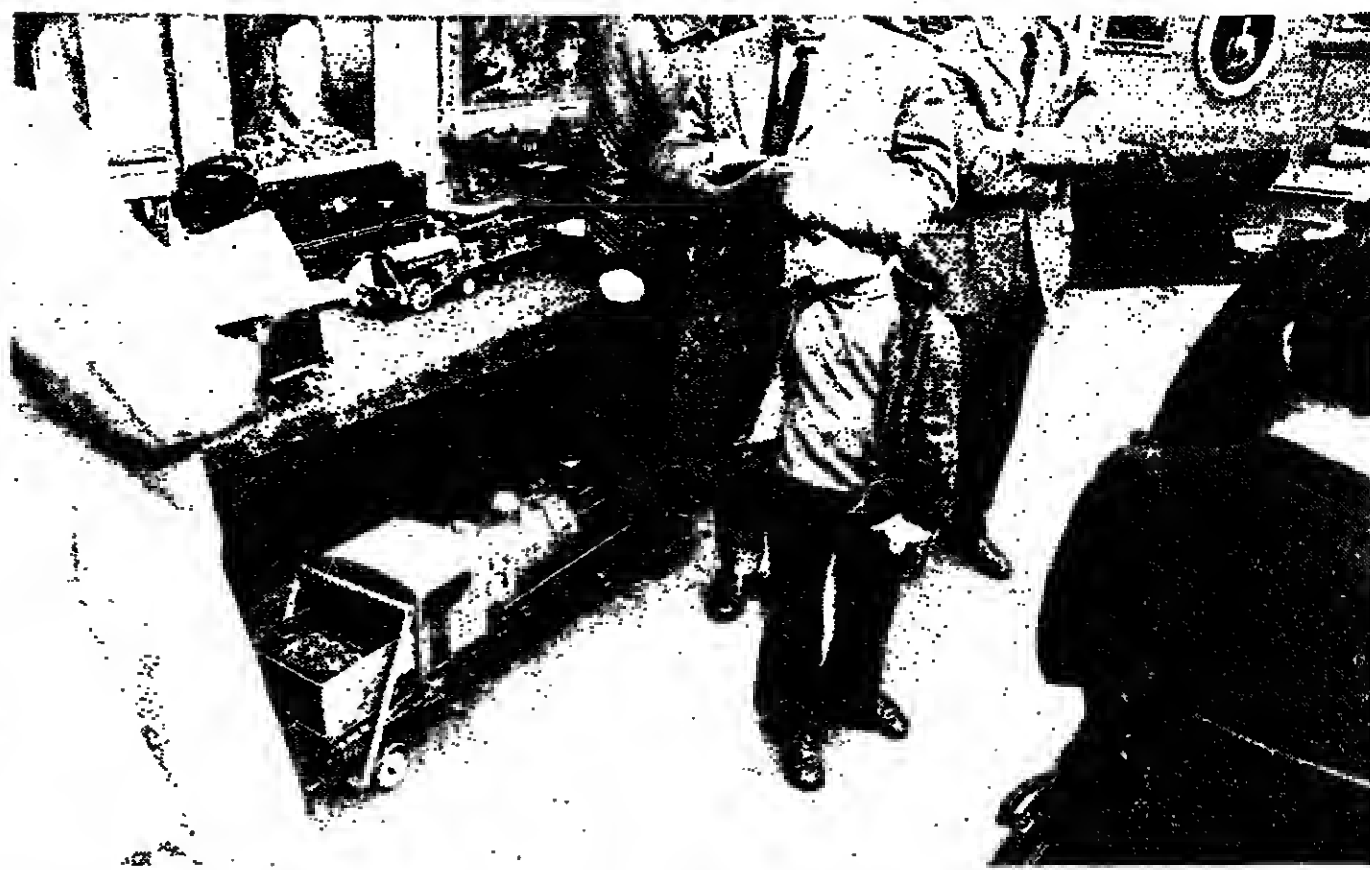
If the grievous bodily harm charge, Mr Wigoder submitted that the "high water" mark of the evidence was that of Police-woman Ratcliffe, who described a kick in the private parts of considerable force. Against that one has got the evidence of Dr Green, who saw Oluwale next day and there was not a scratch on him."

**Denials**  
In evidence Ellerker told the jury that on various occasions he had assaulted Mr Oluwale while arresting him. He never assaulted him unlawfully and had never deliberately ill-treated him. He had never used more violence than was necessary to arrest him. Nor had he seen Kitching urinating upon Mr Oluwale in a shop doorway. On no occasion had he made a deliberate flying tackle on Mr Oluwale. He never went to Bramhope village with Mr Oluwale.

The last time he saw Mr Oluwale alive was in February, 1969, when with Police Constable Keith Seager he had moved him on from a shop doorway. The constable kicked his backside. "Oluwale ran out of the arcade screaming at the top of his voice. I took Seager back to the station and took him into my office and gave him a dressing down."

Ellerker said he had become unpopular with his shift. "When I came to Millgate police station the police constables on group 3 were not a particularly good shift. It necessitated me having to crack the whip a little to get them moving. It may be that because of that I was unpopular with the shift."

The trial continues today.



## Nothing for boy with 9p

Picture: Peter Johns  
Reporter: Peter Harvey

MARK McDONALD, aged 81 years, had ninepence. The toy steam engine he was admiring appeared somewhat out of his reach.

He had gone to Christie's salerooms in St James's, London, yesterday hoping it would not be all a waste of time.

Mark, whose home is in South Kensington, has a father who shares his interest in trains. "Dad is here sometimes... he wants to build one of these models."

All but lost in the forest of legs surrounding the auctioneer's podium, Mark had pushed his way to the gleaming lines of Great Western's tank locomotive No. 1506, and stared at row upon row of hand-made tenders, dining cars, and freight wagons.

Two elderly Frenchmen were racing each other towards the ownership of a Hornby breakdown van and a Bing loco. The lot sold for £300.

Mark's eye fell on a model of British Rail's Scot Class 4-6-0 locomotive No. 1506, a Royal Engineer, 14 inches high, and 70 inches long. Its safety valves, water gauges, and whistles gleamed and winked in the spotlight. It went for 1,200 guineas.

Mark moved on to a 3½in. gauge 0-4-0 Garrett locomotive No. 7 (shown in the picture above). It was made by A. W. G. Tucker, of Bramhall, Cheshire. But again ninepence was not nearly enough. It went for 1,500 guineas.

## Rubens sketch for sale

By our own Reporter

A number of important oils and drawings by old masters—including a "lost" sketch by Rubens—will be auctioned in London within the next few weeks. The sales—at Christie's and Sotheby's—encompass a range of styles and periods: from a 1746-47 painting of the Ponte Delle Navi at Verona by Bernardo Bellotto to two drawings by Rembrandt completed between 1633 and 1642.

The Rubens sketch, in oil, was the artist's final working design for a large picture of Scipio Africanus which was once in the collection of Queen Christina of Sweden and the Duc d'Orleans. The Duc's collection was sold—mainly to English buyers—after the French Revolution and the painting was destroyed in a fire in a London warehouse in 1836. The sketch is believed to have been in the possession of a French family since the seventeenth century, but its existence was unknown to the art world until it was sent for sale recently.

**With Canaletto**

It will be auctioned at Sotheby's on December 8, with four paintings by Canaletto. Two of these—views of Venice—were part of a set acquired by the Duke of Newcastle. Another Canaletto is a view of the old Walton Bridge from the Middlesex bank of the Thames. A long, narrow work, the painting was completed around 1760.

A Titian, probably painted in 1548, will also be auctioned. It depicts a general in the service of the Emperor Charles V. The sale also includes works by Breughel the Younger, Nicolas de Largillierre, Jao Van Goyen, and Jacob Jordaens.

The Rembrandt drawings will be auctioned at Sotheby's on November 25. The first, probably completed between 1633 and 1635, is of an old beggar and was once owned by Lord Warwick. The second drawing shows Satan Tempting Christ and was sketched between 1640 and 1642.

## Funeral tax 'unfair to poor'

The Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Barber, is being asked not to make funerals subject to Value Added Tax, because of the burden on bereaved relatives.

The request is being made by the Funeral Furnishing Manufacturers' Association, and by the Co-operative Funeral Service Managers' Association, members of which direct about a quarter of the nation's funerals.

Mr Eric Etherington, group general manager of the CWS funeral services department in Manchester, says in a letter to the Chancellor that many old people are already barely able to meet funeral expenses because their insurance cover relates to costs as they were many years ago.

Mr Etherington said even if VAT was fixed at 24 per cent, the minimum increase on the price of a normal funeral would be about £5. "As far as we see it, the tax could go on at each stage—the timber stage, coffin production stage, lining and trimming, and on the sale to the customer. The Chancellor will therefore have four bites at the same cherry."

## One of our nicer hang-ups.

People get hung up on many things.

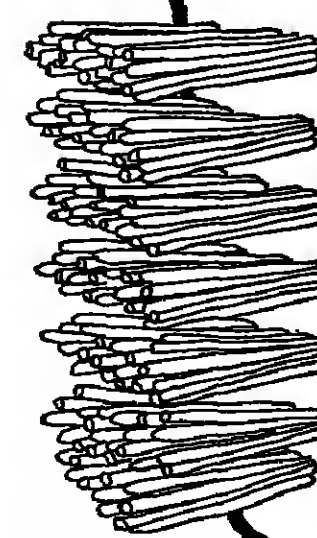
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## Graves of 1545 ship AD 300 total 310

Digging by archaeologists this season has brought the number of burials found in a 1,600-year-old Roman Christian cemetery in Dorset up to a total figure so far excavated of 310.

The graveyard is at Poundbury Camp, near Dorchester, and the "dig" has been directed by a young London archaeologist, Mr Christopher Green.

Blue glass head necklaces and bone bracelets were found in one of the coffins. "The cemetery is one of the largest yet dug in Britain," Mr Green says, "and unique in having masonry mausolea enclosing the richer burials."

A large semi-octagonal building which has puzzled archaeologists was found on the cemetery site. It was erected around a group of fourth-century burials.

"The building was presumably intended as a memorial to those interred there," Mr Green says.

## 1545 ship may be raised

By our Correspondent

THE UNDERSEA team of excavators examining the wreck of Henry VIII's warship, the Mary Rose, which sank off Spithead in 1545, are hoping to raise the hull so that it can be brought ashore, examined in detail, and then opened as a museum.

Mrs Margaret Role, archaeologist to the Mary Rose 1967 Committee, said yesterday: "It would be a wonderful teaching aid to bring English history alive to young people today." Mrs Role, who learned to skin dive so that she could examine the wreck with the men divers, said that because the warship had settled into clay, the possessions of the 700 men who went down with the ship would be perfectly preserved.

Mr Alexander McKee, naval historian and leader of the Mary Rose expedition, said yesterday: "It will be worth a multi-million pound effort to raise her."

## Bomb case court told of life in commune

A description of life in a London commune was given in a letter read to the jury yesterday at the Central Criminal Court. It was alleged to be from Jack Prescott.

Prescott (26), of Roehampton Lane, Roehampton, and Ian Purdie (24), of Tyneham Road, Wandsworth, have been charged with conspiring to cause explosions, one at the home of Mr Carr, Employment Secretary, last January.

The letter was addressed to a woman witness, Miss Margaret Methven of Edinburgh, said Mr John Mathew, prosecuting. It was sent from an address in Grosvenor Avenue, Islington, in November last year and said Prescott had sent some "blue books." This meant he had sent some drugs.

The letter described life at the commune: "We had a trip and had fantastic dreams and

ended with a freak-out... It was really good. We got a lot of drugs and brought them back and we all had them, all 15 of us... It is a huge house and it is a sort of commune. The women are the Women's Lib."

"I went to Edinburgh with the idea of getting something specific, and I got it. That surprised me!"

Mr Mathew has alleged that sticks of gelignite used in some of the 25 incidents involving explosions with home-made bombs were stolen from a quarry near Edinburgh.

Miss Methven, whose full address was not given, said Prescott, whom she had known for some years, called at her house with Purdie in November last year.

She and a friend, Kathleen Steer, later hitch-hiked to London to stay at the commune. "Apart from the fact that I

did not like the people Jack Prescott was associated with I had gained a distinct impression that Jack Prescott, Purdie and all the others we had met were planning something which was to take place on that night."

It had to do with revolutionary activities and was something more serious than a demonstration.

There had been talk about "bombing and things," but she did not know what sort of bombing and on place was mentioned. Miss Methven, told Mr Colin Duncan, QC, defending Prescott, that Prescott, of whom she became "rather fond," never mentioned bombing or explosions.

Purdie's elder brother, Robert, a shipping clerk, said he cashed a £25 cheque for Ian on January 11—the day of the explosions at Mr Carr's home. The hearing was adjourned until today.

## Ladybirds who show the dark side of life

By ANN CLWYD

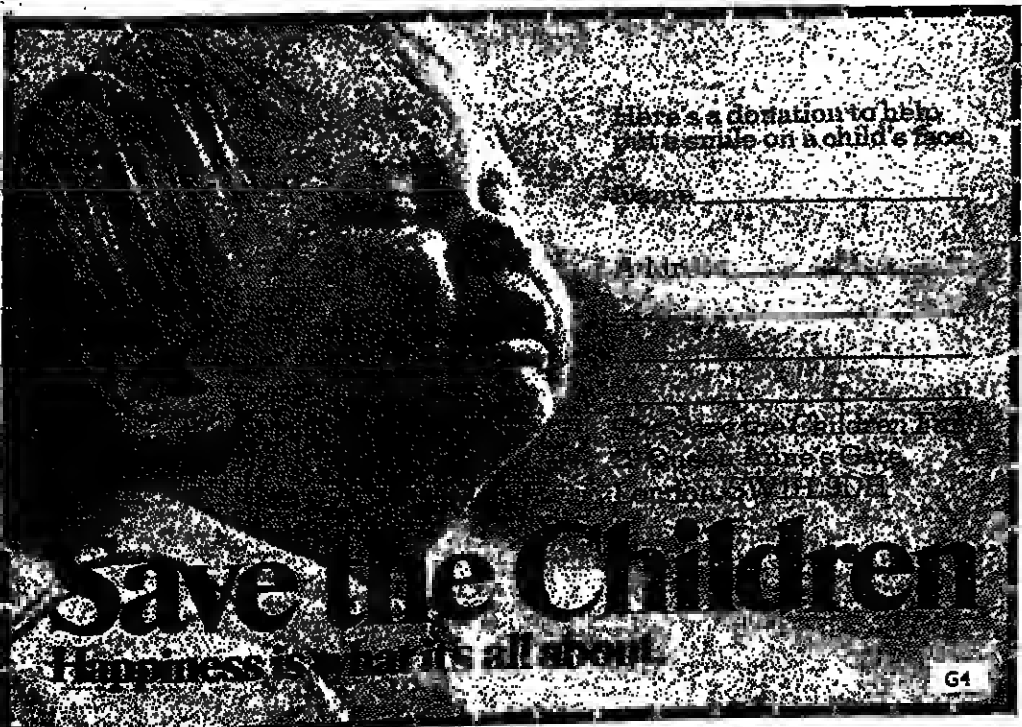
University College, Cardiff is studying the effect of pollution on ladybirds. Surprisingly, 42 different sorts of ladybird in Britain, but Dr Robert Creed, of the zoology department at the college, has been given a Nuffield Foundation grant of 14,500 to look in at the red ladybird with two black spots and the black ladybird with two red spots.

In heavily polluted areas the black ladybird predominates, while in smoke-free areas there are more red ladybirds. Already in cities like Manchester and Glasgow some 96 per cent of the ladybird population is black. But in London, which has quite a lot of sulphur dioxide but not much smoke, there are more reds.

Dr Creed plans a survey of Britain and parts of Europe in

the next three years to see how reliable the ladybird is as an indicator of pollution levels. Two species of moths will also be studied by Dr David Leea of the same department—the Pale Brindled Beauty, and the Peppered moth—both of which change to black in heavily-polluted areas.

It might be thought a black coat was essential to survival in smoke-blackened cities. Dr Creed disagrees. Ladybirds are poisonous to most animals and therefore camouflage is unnecessary. He believes that although black and red varieties belong to the same species, black ones are probably more resistant to pollution. The red ladybird is returning to Birmingham, and the black declining, now parts of the city have been designated smokeless zones.



Save the Children

It's all about

G4







# Calumnies against police and troops disposed of, says Home Secretary

## PARLIAMENT

## Cancer of the North



Miss Devlin



Mr Chichester-Clark



Mr Buck

The "cancerous" effects of derelict land on a locality were condemned in the Lords by the Bishop of Blackburn, Dr Charles Claxton.

The Bishop spoke of communities which had had to endure for a century the squalor of a degraded environment so that the country as a whole could enjoy economic prosperity. Yet we were not keeping pace with newly-created dereliction which he said affected between 3,500 and 5,000 acres every year.

Dr Claxton said the present definition of dereliction excluded devastated woodlands, badly-neglected agricultural land and deserted War Department sites. The scars of blackened and decrepit old mill-sites — disfigured the landscape but technically were not derelict.

Too many sites were being left vacant for people to dump their cars, prams, bricks and rubbish. "Derelict land is a magnet for more dereliction. It is like a cancer that slowly but surely lays a death band on a locality."

Lord Sandford, Under-Secretary, Environment, said generous grants were available for clearing the seven priority areas and progress was accelerating well. "The authorities here are aiming to clear their dereliction in this decade."

The Bishop of Hereford, Dr Mark Hodson, said of London's East End: "Although the appalling overcrowding of pre-war years has gone people are still packed together among many derelict burial grounds. Can nothing be done to make these burial areas smaller so as to release parts of them for recreation?" This might prompt cremation rather than burial, and might involve the Church Estate Commissioners, but something should be done.

The debate ended.

The debate ended.

Mr Robert Chichester-Clark (U.L., Londonderry) opening the emergency debate on the Compton Report, said the report had shown that a thick cloud of fallacy had mushroomed from a handful of incidents. He praised the "painstaking, careful and thorough nature of the inquiry carried out by Sir Edmund Compton and his colleagues against police and police in Northern Ireland."

Mr Chichester-Clark, who had applied for the emergency debate to refute the allegations against soldiers and police, said the morning of August 9 had had to be conducted with speed so that suspects could not inform others and before crowds could gather to hinder the task.

He said the House ought to have before it three documents: the Compton Report, which they had; a report of allegations made in the media; and a report of "torture and barbarism" by the IRA against troops.

He referred to the Association for Legal Justice, which was apparently responsible for obtaining written allegations purported to have been signed by the Compton Report.

Mr Chichester-Clark said that at 3 p.m. on Tuesday BBC news had reported the Dublin Government as saying that the report was unsatisfactory and that the material presumably was likely to be forwarded to the European Court of Human Rights. But the Compton Report had been available in the Commons since 4 p.m. on that day.

"I find it very difficult to see how members of the Dublin Government could have had the report in their hands ready and made a judgment at such a senior level," he said. "That does seem to be instant treatment of information."

He suggested that the media might consider, when dealing with such sensitive matters, to look at the situation and see whether the report lay down some procedure in these circumstances.

He referred to a leaflet published by the Anti-Interment League on October 31, saying

that all detainees had been beaten up and generally mistreated. There had also been "disturbing allegations about interference with genitals, and detainees being made to walk over glass."

"I would ask MPs that the message goes out from this House, both to the troops and public at large, to say this kind of statement is a malicious falsehood," said Mr Chichester-Clark.

Even if they accepted that one per cent among the troops had transgressed on the question of ill-treatment, which was far divorced from brutality or torture, there had always been this one per cent in any force, however well disciplined. He spoke of the other 99 per cent who were labelled and stigmatised "by foul accusations like Amnesty seemed in delight in making 'without adequate investigation'."

Mr Chichester-Clark continued: "I find it interesting to hear today Mr Gerard Fitt (Republican Labour, Belfast) expressing horror at British standards of interrogation."

This report, whatever else it has done, had dismissed charges against the security forces of brutality and torture," said Mr Chichester-Clark. "It has shown evidence in some cases of ill-treatment, but we must set against that such instances as the murder of three young soldiers and the tarring and feathering of young girls and of young girls disguised for life."

Mr Reginald Maudling, the Home Secretary, paid tribute to the thoroughness and impartiality with which the investigation had been carried out and said he could not think of any other country in the world where such a standard would have been maintained. Inevitably, some people would say it was a whitewashing operation.

But those who knew Sir Edmund Compton, and had read his report, knew that it was not a whitewashing operation. "It was an operation to make clear the facts," he said.

It was a matter of regret that "with very few exceptions," the men concerned were not themselves prepared to give evidence to the inquiry. "No doubt this was partly due to pressure upon them which one can well understand," Mr Maudling said.

It must surely be apparent now that the stories put around by people on behalf of those men "would not have stood up to investigation." The effect of their non-participation was that the evidence given by the security authorities had been subjected to the most rigorous cross-examination, whereas the evidence of those who would not participate had not been examined or investigated at all, but rested still on mere suggestion and mere third-party allegation.

Regarding the arrests on August 8, Mr Maudling said there had been widespread stories of brutality and beating up and even of throwing men out of helicopters. These stories had been given wide publicity by the IRA propaganda machine, which was a very effective one indeed. The 342 men "in very difficult circumstances" and there was clearly the need for absolute secrecy.

"I believe the army's performance in arresting these 342 men was highly creditable," he said. "No force was used but the minimum necessary to achieve arrest and there is no evidence, whatever, of deliberate brutality on the part of any of the armed forces involved."

Asked by Mr Simon Mahon (Lab. Bootle) if any non-Catholic houses had been entered by the troops, Mr Maudling said: "The people who were picked up were those who were believed to be concerned in the campaign of the IRA of murder and terrorism. The members of the IRA are not drawn from the Protestant community. It is quite wrong to suggest, in any way, that the British Army is other than impartial in sectarian matters."

"The arrests were carried out with scrupulous regard to the principle of the minimum use of force. There is no reason to criticise the army for the way in which they carried out the operation on August 9 — an extremely difficult and necessary operation."

On the interrogation in depth," he said: "I must stress there was no permanent lasting injury whatever, either physically or mentally, to any of the men concerned. This is con-

firmed by the evidence of the medical authorities.

"Certainly the interrogation yielded information of very great value that would otherwise have been available either in the volume or in the time scale, in which it was received."

This year there had been over 800 bomb explosions in Northern Ireland. In the hospitals, 100 victims of violence had been treated, more than 200 of them British soldiers. Almost two-thirds of the civilian casualties were women. They included young girls, and children, and men for life in the explosions in the offices in which they worked.

These were the things being done by the IRA.

The interrogation had yielded information extremely valuable to the campaign against the IRA, the nature of whose campaign was one that brought suffering to a vast number of people.

Mr Maudling went on: "Torture is not acceptable, but merely asking people if they would be good enough to help in the investigation, equally is not good enough. You have to draw a line between these two extremes."

The Shadow Foreign Affairs Minister, Mr Denis Healey, asked Mr Maudling to specify, to authorise certain techniques (of interrogation), specifically, to authorise the use of the five techniques which had been done in the past. He said the directive in 1965, amended in 1967, had not discussed the techniques of investigation, including the five techniques which Sir Edmund Compton had complained of.

Mr Maudling replied that the directive laid down in 1965, and amended in 1967, remained the ruling directive. Methods employed in Northern Ireland were the same as in Aden.

He said that Sir Edmund had done a "great service" in disposing of the calumnies put out against the armed forces and the police. It is necessary to take vigorous measures to fight ruthless enemies the terrorists and murderers," said Mr Maudling.

"We must recognise them for what they are. They are not innocents who wish to impose their own will by violence. Terror and methods condemned by virtually everyone of any responsibility."

"They are opposed, front to front, to the army and the police, who are trying to maintain the law and order. But is joined. No one in this House can be impartial as between those who kill to destroy the law and those who die to defend it."

Mr Hugh Delargy (Lab. Thurrock) asked Mr Maudling whether the army's policy was to force a division. There had been very efficient whipping on the Conservative side but none on his side. Some Labour MPs were absent, so the majority on the Conservative side would be very large.

Mr James Ramsden (C. Harrogate) said the report had found that there was no brutality but that methods used did involve some physical ill-treatment. The question was whether this was justified. Sir Edmund Compton had not been able to give an opinion on this. Members should be prepared to face this question and meet it. The House should be prepared to take it off the army's shoulders by voting.

Mr Roy Hattersley (Lab. Sparkbrook) said it was not too late for the Government to make it very clear in the Catholic ghettos of London, derry and Belfast that the army was still on the side of the majority of Catholics who were on the side of law and order. A growing number of Catholics were losing the faith they once had in the army's objectivity. That faith would not be restored if incidents like those which appeared in the Compton report were allowed to be swept under the carpet.

Mr Hattersley said rules concerning interrogation did not say that all detainees held by the army should be treated in this way: they just set the limit. He wanted to know whether the army had gone to that limit without Ministerial approval or with express instructions.

"If I had the job of the Minister I would not possibly have approved of this sort of interrogation in these sorts of circumstances," he said. "I regard it as totally indefensible that the British Army should operate in this way." He did not share the feelings of those who regarded the report

as a "whitewash job." In fact, he thought it "remarkably frank."

Another inadequacy of the report was that the definition of brutality was almost entirely concerned with the intentions in the minds of those carrying out the interrogations. Such a definition was "frankly nonsensical." It was purely semantic to concern one's self with the feelings of a man when he carried out an act of ill-treatment rather than with the act itself.

Mr Anthony Buck (C. Colchester) said the vast majority of those who were in Long Kesh internment camp were "in the main IRA dedicated killers."

Miss Bernadette Devlin (Ind. Mid-Ulster) said it ill-behaved him to make "slanders against people against whom 'no charges have been brought'."

When Tory MPs asked: "Are you against the IRA?" and "Answer," Miss Devlin said: "I am not against the official IRA — its aims and objectives."

Mr Frank McManus (Unity, Fermanagh and South Tyrone) said he believed the report to be "a whitewash operation from start to finish," that Sir Edmund Compton's hands had been tied, and he had to bring in a report which was favourable to the Government.

An attempt had been made to explain away what could not be denied. The nicer word of ill-treatment had been substituted for brutality, but the fact was that it was brutality at the end of the day.

"The miracle is that there is not much more terror in Northern Ireland," he said, and he called on the Government to establish "a proper and real inquiry manned by people of

international reputation who are bound to be impartial."

Mr Kevin McNamara (Lab. Hull N) said the principles of freedom from arbitrary arrest, the right of habeas corpus, innocence presumed until evidence was produced and a man was convicted, no arbitrary imprisonment, equality before the law, no ill-treatment of prisoners, and liberty of the press and criticism, were in peril. There was a real danger that the whole of society would be brutalised by the affairs taking place on both sides in Northern Ireland.

Lieutenant-Colonel Collin Mitchell (C. West Aberdeenshire) said the operation of bringing in detainees had been "professionally well handled." "It had to be handled using reasonably tough methods because, to deal with the IRA, you are not dealing with boy scouts," he said.

The Compton Report contributed nothing to solving the Ulster situation except by highlighting the vulnerability of a free society to terrorist methods. He believed the British Army could rest assured that they had been seen to do their duty and were fully supported by those MPs who understood the nature of insurgency.

Mr James Callaghan, the Shadow Home Secretary, winding up, said: "There is a background of explosions, gelling, bombs, the murder of soldiers

and policemen and the indifference of the Provisional IRA to the canon of ordinary decency and behaviour and their complete absence of pity."

He said he understood, but did not accept, the reasons some detainees had refused to give evidence but "did not show any reluctance to give their views on television."

Mr Callaghan went on: "While the battle must go on against the IRA, the question is: How do we win it and what weapons do we employ in winning it? Despite the indignation and horror with which most of us regard the actions of the Provisionals, we must not allow our policy to be dictated by revenge or passion. If we do, we shall not only behave in an immoral way, we shall lose the battle."

Cries for censorship of the press and television would lead us nearer the pit.

Mr Callaghan said the Defence Secretary, Lord Carrington, had behaved quite improperly "by referring to the men involved as thugs and murderers when they had not been convicted or tried. Lord Carrington had a responsibility not to inflame matters in this particular way."

As for as he could see, there were only relatively minor ways in which the army had exceeded instructions but these were still serious.

They could not justify any lowering of standards by referring to the IRA as terrorists."

The debate ended.

The debate ended.

# What on earth can Jeremy Wilshaw have in common with Andrew Buxton, Q.C.?

At the moment they're taking rather different views of this photographic session! But in fact they do have quite a few things in common.

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## No boundaries bill for Wales

Mr Peter Thomas, Welsh Secretary, rejected pleas for a separate Local Government Bill for Wales. Mr Thomas, opening the second day of the Local Government Bill's second reading debate, said: "If Welsh local government is to be re-organised in the same parliamentary session as English local government, there is no realistic possibility of the two being carried out in separate Bills."

Legislation covering both England and Wales must involve amendment of the same statutes, he said. "I would, therefore, find it impossible, in these circumstances, to justify asking Parliament to consider, in the same session, two enormous Bills both of which contain provisions in exactly similar terms."

"It would be a gross waste of Parliament's time in any session. And in the present session, which is crowded with legislation, it would be an impossibility."

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# Reading Carlyle

by RAYMOND WILLIAMS

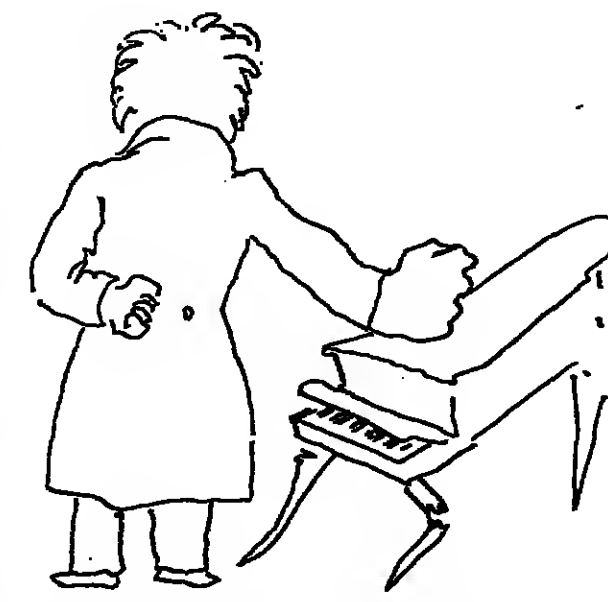
THREE possibilities: to read Carlyle, to read what his contemporaries wrote about him, to read an account of his life. Each has its place in the order of things. The first is the most difficult, the second the most useful, the third the most pleasant. Carlyle, like all the great nineteenth-century writers, is a man who has to be read in his own right, not only as a writer but as a man. His life, his times, his place in the world, are all part of the reading. The second possibility, to read what his contemporaries wrote about him, is a useful way of getting a sense of his place in the world. The third possibility, to read an account of his life, is a pleasant way of getting to know him. But the first possibility, to read Carlyle in his own right, is the most difficult. It is a task that requires a great deal of patience and a great deal of knowledge. Carlyle is a man who is not easy to read. He is a man who is not easy to understand. He is a man who is not easy to like. But he is a man who is not easy to ignore. He is a man who is not easy to forget. He is a man who is not easy to read.

THOMAS CARLYLE: SELECTED WRITINGS, edited by Alan Stewart (Penguin, 50p). THOMAS CARLYLE: CRITICAL ESSAYS, edited by John Gifford (Penguin, 50p). THE CARLYLES, by John Stewart (Sidgwick and Jackson, £2.50).

do less violence to our sensibilities. "Our sensibilities": the last stage of critical decline. It is the unnoted confidence in "our sensibilities" that really needs criticism. Reading, even close reading, is not commonly supposed to be that kind of transaction: between "our sensibilities" and the practical consensus—and a succession of individual authors who rise and decline, have good and bad periods, have a hand and an other hand. Very little of what matters can then possibly be said. For the question about Carlyle cannot be a question about Carlyle alone. Talking to

himself in a language which he invented and which ultimately only he understands. It is a fact about a period and a culture that this could also be said, with as much and as little justice, about Blake, Coleridge, Ruskin, Dickens, and the rest. But against those writers, from eighteenth-century humanism and social dislocation, the men who were formally ordered, who wrote current public prose, and ask critically and historically, who then wrote. The problem of style, in a period of dislocation, is a problem of sensibility in a sense much deeper than the easy social offer of "our sensibilities". The disordered selves of dislocation are in themselves the social crisis, and the resulting idiosyncrasies need reference to something more rigorous than individual psychology. That is why it is so alarming to find one nineteenth-century figure after another reduced to casebook status: whether for praise or blame is beside the point. All this is informative and for the most part true, but it is a fact about biography that it

only notices one or two people alive at a time: a deep unconscious presupposition of significance which, in this and other forms, prevents us understanding either ourselves or our history. What we have to face (and in our own time, on different bearings, quite as much as in Carlyle's) is the process in which some of the inarticulate truths of a common experience become barely and strangely articulated: often, as it happens, with more resonance than precision. That effect can be studied in the Critical Heritage volume, next the chapter about "Mr Carlyle's career". But even more we have to look at the structure of a society in which the strains of isolation are in significant relation to the strains of real insight, so that what "our sensibilities" call breakdown and failure can be given the lived social history to which they belong and contribute. To read Carlyle is to read how one profound kind of radicalism burned itself through to vision and cruelty: something more than a career or a personal psychology: a world-historical event.



Ludwig van Beethoven Believed it proven

That, for mortal dust, What must be, must

Drawing by Filippo Sanjust for one of the drier quibbles on W. H. Auden's surprisingly damp collection of clerihews on "similarly lofty subjects." "Academic Graffiti" (Faber, £2). "I know," says the poet in a foreword, "that my verses are a small matter compared to Filippo Sanjust's illustrations." On these, it's largely fair comment.

## Ripe & rare

DISCOVERIES OF BONES AND STONES, by Geoffrey Grigson (Macmillan, £1.50).

Geoffrey Grigson is one of the rare ones whose opinions are always worth listening to. He comes right out with them. Yet oddly, he remains elusive. In "Notes from an Odd Country," for example, his prose celebration of a part of France, he appears to be telling you all about it but also keeps you waiting for some final intimacy which never comes. When it seems to be approaching he immediately retreats. But side-turning sometimes a merely verbal one. He is like one of those sea creatures, clear, defined, who suddenly vanish in a cloud of their own ink. His new book of poems, *Discoveries of Bones and Stones*, in a short space he manages to go round the houses and disappear several times. He talks of perceptual artists and adds immediately, in brackets, "can there be artists of any other kind? Like him I doubt it, so why does he use a useless adjective? Also, he does not like being thought a poet of objects (and calls his book "Stones and Bones") telling us "objects are either meat, or nothing." But side-turning can a thing be nothing? And so on: it's irritating. But he agrees that objects "elicit and exert benediction" and in most of these poems benediction is his subject and purpose. He can convey it. There is in him, as he says of Auden's poetry, "a ripeness and rareness." Here again is a pleasing contradiction. Among the praise and the celebration of living he can still begin a poem "and my old friend Sod" etc. He is like a man who leaps out to celebrate a picnic (he does so beautifully), every nuance of colour, scent, and grouping until the listener sees what Mr Grigson sees and turns to him in gratitude and pleasure. Only to find the genial celebrant has disappeared to keep a pressing appointment with his own spleen. I like that, it seems real.

Listen to this charming, classical cry: "Those which are light and free in the spring become for hard buds in dull green. But then change to brown, and their dry leaves drift down. To lay bright gifts forever. He must call this poem, with another delicious squirt of his ink-cloud: "CONSOLATION OBVIOUS, OLD HAT, I ADMIT. NOT PROPER, NOT ENTIRE."

P. J. Kavanagh

THE best test of any translation is to ask whether it would command attention as an English poem in its own right. By this hard ordinance, many versions of the classics and famous European poems fail completely. How often, looking at Virgil in English, you wonder how the Roman master acquired his reputation. The answer, of course, is back in the Latin. At the same time, one can approach a translation in a state of false innocence: the original poem has pre-emptive rights. All the books reviewed here are well translated in the sense that the poems read well in English. Only a critic with fluent German, Hungarian, Russian, and Italian would know how faithful the translations are. Penguin have been particularly successful with poetry from Eastern Europe, perhaps because the poets' need to get round the censorship leads them to create fables which go easily into other languages. Blazek has some of the best of the classics and the most of the moderns. He has a beautiful poem of Bobrowski which establishes the Meads as outstanding translators. Bobrowski writes about the plains and rivers of the Eastern Marches running down to the Baltic. The Meads is a poet with a difference: his work re-creates the ancient land of Sarmatia, long terrorised by the Teutonic Knights, and until 1941 the home of one of the most richly imaginative of Jewish civilisations. Almost all Bobrowski's poems are diurnal or nocturnal studies. Without overstraining for effect, he fills his landscape with no less to his history—the rivers, the hawks, the sky itself hang in his words with exquisite tension. One poem, "Dead Language," celebrates the original inhabitants of the Eastern Marches, the Priglas, whose language "became extinct" in the eighteenth century. He comes, an officer, he comes swarming like hornets, he cries, a cricket, he grows with the marsh under your house, he whispers

## In other words

by PETER PORTER

JOHANNES BOBROWSKI & HORST BIENEK: Selected Poems, translated by Ruth and Matthew Mead (Penguin, 30p).

GYULA ILLYES: Selected Poems, edited by Thomas Kadebo & Paul Tabori (Chatto & Windus, £1.50).

MARINA TSVETAYEVA: Selected Poems, translated by Elaine Feinstein (Oxford, £2.50).

YULI DANIEL: Prison Poems: translated by David Burg and Arthur Boyars (Corgi, £1.50).

in the well, swords you hear, your black rider will wither, and die at the fence tomorrow. Bobrowski is unlike anyone's idea of a German poet and the Meads' translations are wonderfully sympathetic. This becomes an essential Penguin immediately. I have every reason to admire the translators of Illyes (who include Donald Davie and the late Vernon Watkins), since I was among those approached by Thomas Kadebo to render the Hungarian into English. His own efforts were disastrous and are put in this book. Illyes is a very strict poet and Hungarian, a highly inflected language—the task is therefore formidable. I don't find Illyes very agreeable but his translators have served him well, especially John Wilkinson, who succeeds against all

the odds with the long ruminative "On Seeing the Reformation Monument, Geneva." Wilkinson is also responsible for the fine English version of "Let not us back to die," a deceptively slight litany of mortality. English speakers are farther from Russian poetry than from any other body of European verse. The bewilderment starts with Pushkin, goes on through the Symbolists and the Modernists and persists in Eastern Europe. Marina Tsvetayeva was another of Stalin's victims and is generally thought the most gifted of the post-Bloch generation which included Akhmatova and Mandelstam. Elaine Feinstein translates her scrupulously, but the floating of phrases and sentences within stanzas is a mannerism hard to like. Tsvetayeva is a love poet in the Plath mould. Her violent affection for Russia and her sense of doom give her poetry a sleepwalking air, particularly as she has a turbulent way with syntax. My guess is that she is very powerful in Russian. In English, the power is there, but the focus is removed. That Christian leprosy: steam: sure that with your poutings. There never was such a thing. There was a body once, named to live no longer wants to live. David Burg and Arthur Boyars had an even more difficult task translating Yuli Daniel. Not stylistically, as he is far simpler than Tsvetayeva, but to avoid the triteness which such plain writing can convey in English. On the whole, they have brought it off, though only a few poems relieve the horror of Daniel's experiences. "The House" is a particularly good poem, and two lines from another constitute a statement in brief of Daniel's position. It was not to win but fight That I came into the ring. I suspect that nobody outside the Soviet Union knows the full price of such an attitude.

## A proper study

by ALEX COMFORT

WELLS and Huxley's "Science of Life" formed an entire generation by bringing biology into philosophical focus and showing how it alters the human self-perception. We badly need another such book, but the task is now much more difficult. To achieve the same kind of revolutionary scope the authors would have to take in anthropology, religion, politics and depth psychology and integrate these with biology in form an overall biology of Man—a labour of Hercules.

Professor J. Z. Young hasn't attempted this: he has stuck to the biology itself without attempting to be interdisciplinary beyond it. The interdisciplinary effort here alone is big enough, with the walls down between physiology, cytogenetics, information theory and a dozen other fields. At this level it has never been better done: for anyone wanting the basic science this book is a storehouse, fully illustrated and referenced. No junior lecturer in biology need ever be left without resources in the face of a course for students, science or lay, and the book falls automatically into all lists of prescribed life sciences reading. It deals first and exhaustively with the components and working of life, then with the bases of evolution and genetics which

AN INTRODUCTION TO THE STUDY OF MAN, by J. Z. Young (Oxford: Clarendon, £6).

Somebody some time has to tackle this at the level of Professor Young's book: if he does it well, he too will form an entire generation's perception. Then there are the issues of linguistics, yet another piece of biology. The trouble is that we are just short of the knowledge to write this other book at the level of science. Nobody mean-while will blame Professor Young for his self-imposed limitations—he has done the more self-denying job about as well as it could be done, elegantly, incisively, and with compression, even in 700 odd pages, which is never indigestible. The wider material he deals with briefly, but in a form which gives the careful reader a complete kit, as it were, with which to continue his own reading. All of human development and behaviour is included if one reads carefully. More opinionated writers would theorise more, be more pugnacious—one can imagine what Darlington or Haldane would put in by way of asides. Professor Young sticks to straight and informative science, is not pugnacious, but is instead rivetingly interesting, and conveys a constant sense of the controlled, critical curiosity which is what science is about. All his colleagues who teach biology will be grateful to him.

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NEW FILMS REVIEWED BY DEREK MALCOLM

## Reich stag

Milena Dravic in "W.R.—Mysteries of the Orgasm"



IN THE MIDDLE of Dusan Makavejev's *W.R.—Mysteries of the Orgasm* (Academy Two, X) a young man lies half naked on a couch, eyes closed and with a blissful smile on his face, as an attractive woman manipulates his penis with her hands until it is erect. When it is, she makes a plaster cast of it and puts it on the mantelpiece. It is a sequence which, even a year ago, would have sent the scissors flying into the censor's hand. Yet he hasn't cut a foot from this extraordinary film, the rage of Cannes, and that's a little revolution in itself.

It is a revolution because "W.R." not only deals frankly in such erotica but also commits the hitherto unforgivable sin of trying for laughs at the same time. In a sense, it attempts to take sex seriously by laughing at it. But its purpose goes far beyond that, since the "W.R." of the title refers not only to world revolution but to William Reich who, to put it at its blindest, preached world revolution through better orgasms.

Needless to say he was thoroughly persecuted for these and other views, so much so that he held them ever more strongly. He died at Lewisburg Penitentiary in 1957, an uncertain martyr and undoubted crank. But like so many cranks, it seems to me and more importantly to Makavejev, he was in some ways saner than the rest of us. And if the film doesn't exactly make one want to rush to the barricades brandishing one's plaster phallus, it gives the greatest food for thought and entertainment.

Just about half this cinematic collage follows the career and aftermath of Reich pretty straight. There are interviews with friends and relatives, demonstrations of his therapy and old film clips of the man himself. The rest develops the theme in relation to where we find ourselves today, forsaking documentary in favour of more or less mordant satire and entirely malevolent parody. This involves, among others, Milena Dravic, Yugoslavia's favourite sex-pot, Jackie Curtis, Warhol's favourite transvestite, and Josef Stalin, Makavejev's favourite butt.

The planet, the film postulates, is in trouble. The whole capitalist system is plainly rotten, since it thinks in terms of money and power rather than love

and human beings. But the corruption of the Socialist ideal is even more serious because of its initial promise. Who will protect us from our protectors in both camps?

Makavejev, a Marxist and Leninist from Serbia, goes hammer and tongs after Stalinism (judicious clips of Gelovani's hagiographic "The Vow" are intercut into the film), and after the type of Communist represented by a handsome Soviet ice-skater who talks glibly of the liberty of the masses without assigning to any one of them the slightest individual freedom at all. "You say you love the whole human race," says Milena echoing Reich. "But you can't even make love properly."

It would be misleading to suggest that the film is a masterpiece. Perhaps because it tries for so many targets at once, and with so many different techniques, it is not above a certain muddled-headed opportunism—Richard Roud went further and called it prurience. But it is arguably the most important European film of the year—lively, idiosyncratic, hilarious in detail, touchingly serious in essence, and above all absolutely of and for its time.

Jacques Tati's *Traffic* (Prince Charles, U) comes from an entirely different world. In the most general terms, Makavejev is a radical, Tati a conservative. The one clouds you over the head, the other gently insinuates. At first sight Tati's version of the love-hate relationship between man and his car is much too thinly spread. It has very dull patches, is burdened by a hideously disembodied international sound-track, and has M. Hulot himself gliding quietly in and out of longshot like some half-remembered ghost of former years.

All this is undeniable, yet there are, to be appropriately mechanical, wheels within wheels. There is a cumulative effect which keeps on repeating in the mind. I don't know whether this is the parts, some of which are glorious, making more than the whole or the other way round. One notices, for instance, how smart the film looks, both in colour and design, how Tati's influence is everywhere apparent, creating a whole world from his humour, complete in itself and totally recognisable. He never stamps on a joke for a belly-laugh, often preferring to leave it

understated and incomplete so that one thinks about it afterwards and smiles at his temerity.

There is a lot wrong with the movie, which is perhaps why Bert Haaststra, his distinguished Dutch collaborator, left it halfway. But even if one were to take no account of the major scenes—Hulot hanging upside down from a tree, his money clinking onto the pavement, the somehow inevitable result of a simple kindly action—there is a logic and philosophy behind it which inspires confidence and respect. See, he says, how we have turned the world upside-down through simply not looking where we are going. A perceptive if flawed parable.

Shaft (Ritz, X) is a very competent and professional private eye thriller which owes its originality to the fact that Shaft himself is black and so are most of his friends. Richard Roundtree is sexy, witty and slyly humorous in the lead, Gordon Parks directs with a crisp certainty that's almost wholly enjoyable, and Charles Cioffi, the leading white around, plays the police inspector with just the right air of knowing why black is beautiful. There's an excellent Greenwich Village setting.

The Red Baron (London Pavilion, A) is Roger Corman's highly individual stab at making an anti-war tract from the legend of Baron von Richthofen, the German ace of World War One. John Corrington's staccato script points up some really stunning visuals, the planes weaved through the air like ballet-dancer wasps, and John Phillip Law (Richthofen), Don Stroud and Corin Redgrave put meat on the bones of their parts as the airmen. An impressive lament for the passing of an era when war was just serious fun, the same bill is Frank Perry's doom-laden Western *Doc* (AA), another interesting example of how neurotic American film-makers become when they attempt to probe the roots of their own myths. Stacy Keach is excellent as the consumptive Doc Holliday, Faye Dunaway better than of late as his scrubber girlfriend, and Harris Yulin is Wyatt Earp, cleaning out Tombstone on the pretext of cleaning it up. The film-casts Holliday as the universal American, Earp as your Nixon figure, and frequently lapses into a kind of indulgent portentousness that

vitiate its carefully created atmosphere.

Richard Fleischer's *The Last Run* (ABC-2 AA) is distinguished only by the presence of George C. Scott as an ex-wheelman for a Chicago syndicate who comes out of retirement in Portugal to do one last job, just to see if he actually can. He has to drive a mocking young man sprung from gaol (Tony Musante) and his girlfriend (Trish Van Devere) through mountains to the sea. Scott delineates the perils of the male menopause extremely well, but the script isn't good enough to carry the tale more than halfway. Sven Nykvist's cinemascopic photography gets the best out of the car chase in what looks like Andalusia.

The rest is fair old rubbish. There's an adaptation of the television *Please, Sir* (A) at the Metropole, Victoria, that beats the little box hands down in the matter of sheer inanity, and is tattle made to boot. There's also a very tiresome Tom Gries film going into Cinemas called *Fools* (AA), which has Jason Roberts as a middle-aged actor fall in love with Katharine Ross as a young girl in the throes of divorce and say things like: "You make me feel alive again. For the first time in years, I'm beginning to breathe." There is a lot more pretentious little-tattle than that, and in the end one reflects that the movie couldn't possibly have had an after life.

Finally, there's a trite and novelistic saga, by the name of *Red Sky at Morning* (X) which replaces the cherub-like "Fading Girl" at the Odéon St Martin's Lane. This tells the story of a man who goes off to fight in the war leaving his family stranded in New Mexico among the gringo haters. Richard Thomas and Catherine Bruns act with a sense of the ludicrous, nose and lip twitches as two young adolescents in the spotty throes of growing up, while Claire Bloom and John Colicos content themselves with Tennessee Williams pastiche as bored Southern belle and sponging admirer. It is all very like a thoroughly debased version of "Summer of '42" with a bit of "Suddenly Last Summer" thrown in for good measure. Shepherd's warning indeed.

Tomorrow: Derek Malcolm interviews Jacques Tati.

BBC REITH LECTURES 1971

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WEEKLY FROM NOVEMBER 18

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## OPEN SPACE

Michael Billington

## Bluebeard

CHARLES LUDLAM'S "Bluebeard," presented by the Ridiculous Theatrical Company of New York, is camp of the highest. Taking off from a virtually forgotten 1939 Laughton movie, "Island of Lost Souls," it provides a lunatic, hawdy but ultimately self-defeating parody of all the rotten films ever made about transmutation-obsessed scientists, marooned travellers and animal-women searching for their lost human love.

Admittedly it starts promisingly with the obligatory, bald-pated scientist ("They said I was mad at medical school!") plotting to create a third genital organ with the help of a towering hunch-backed amanuensis with cantilevered eyetowers and a mob-capped serving woman endowed with a vast Cyrano-like nose. Fizzed like Tommy Cooper, and with eyes rolling round in his head like silver balls in puzzle box, the mad medico gets his lascivious clutches on a party of stranded travellers, headed by a massive Margaret Dumont-like guardian and her rosebud-tipped ward. There is an obscene seduction of the heavy weight guardian; a successful attempt to create the third organ; and a cliché-ridden fadeout with the roving leopard woman ending up in the arms of the Charles Addams butler.

The problem with this kind of show is that it depends on a folkloristic attitude to movies which is part of the American rather than the British way of life. How many people here, for instance, have a frame-by-frame knowledge of the Laughton prototype? It also becomes virtually impossible to

## review



Bluebeard: Open Space

provide a lengthy three-act parody of a cinematic genre that itself often had its tongue lodged firmly in its cheek. And finally the whole notion that bad art is inherently funny and self-destructive (witness the unspeakable "Beyond the Valley of the Dolls"): to adopt an attitude of amused condescension to the naïve products of the past seems to me the beginning of aesthetic decadence. However, at least one must admit that the Ridiculous Theatrical Company is never dull, and that the author himself provides a suitably uninhibited performance as the eponymous hero with the electric shock countenance and the blue Brillo-pad beard.

in trochees "fringed with fern that soaked your mac with beads of rain as you brushed along."

It is a treat just to hear him blowing wild like a school of whales or a Welsh male voice choir. But it is not a script, it's a libretto. And I have a strong feeling that he cheated with the plot so that the Welsh would win and I demand a recount. Mark you the Celts can't spell. Alun indeed.

## TALK OF THE TOWN

Peter Preston

## Sacha Distel

EVERY COMMON MARKET year needs its importable toothy Frenchman, and here (at Royal Performance, Talk of the Town, and grinning from new "TV Times") comes Sacha Distel, guaranteed Gallic knees-wakened to a nation of suburban mums. Not a great act: his jogging, pedestrian voice makes all songs similar. Not a great song-writer: hearing his own version of "The Good Life" brings freshened appreciation of Tony Bennett. But French, and playing it for every last centimetre of relentless, how-you-say, charm.

Does Bernard Delfont's sliced beef seem a trifle pier-endish? Distel will turn it marshland de vin. Do Robert Nesbitt's chorus dolly girls seem more than usually plastic? Distel is a polished but human being, able to lift an audience along and dispatch it cheerfully. The brew, inevitably, comes carefully adulterated. None of those maudering middle-aged French songs which spend ten tortured minutes hunting for a tune; shrewd Beatle medleys and Bacharach dominate. But there's enough of the Riviera night-club star to indicate wider possibilities.

His small EEC quips giggle home: touches of the old Chevalier bring little squeals of joy; a genuine need appears to be filled. Perhaps, after years of American smooching and scanty European exchanges, we're on the edge of an era when the better continental artists can find lucrative British markets. Distel, a wrinkled Cliff Richard, is the first but not necessarily the best or most interesting. What price Vartan or Marie Laforêt with Delfont's beef, treading the hallowed boards where of late (last month) the Beverley Sisters trod? It would make a change and it couldn't be bad.

## QEH

Phillip Hope-Wallace

## Paco Pena

PACO PENA, back from a tour with his Flamenco Puro group, but appearing on Tuesday solo at the Queen Elizabeth Hall, is a 29-year-old virtuoso guitarist, the delight of those who will accept and indeed leap up at bravura in any shape or form, the despair-like

wise of those who have even as tyros clasped that deceptive instrument to their bosom for a clumsy strumming and twanging. Paco's playing is angelic, devilish. Sitting on his high stool, a moonbeam of light he makes, quite apart from the fabulous variety of sounds, a most striking picture. I don't think any one in that packed (no pun meant) audience would have taken their eyes off him (as one does, heaven knows, a singer sometimes). The sheer business of the art is a constant miracle and wonder, like wirewalking: the right hand tricks us into thinking all is for a moment plain sailing in the modes of old Seville, when suddenly the teasing little tune breaks with the left hand into a series and sequence of flourishes executed with the speed of a startled spider.

Yet the whole creative act is consciously relaxed: nothing less like "clutching" the guitar can well be described. The seated player may truly still be said to "move from the spine." Frantically difficult, yet as easy as wink at one and the same moment: in short virtuosity. And who would wish to miss the deprecating smile? Or the gesture of a saluting hand, which, after acknowledging a roar of applause swelling like the last minutes of a horse race, he turns into a mock pistol to blow out his brains. "It was my own variation," unfortunately I made it too difficult. "The programme was improvised, explanations followed inwards—not a bad method; it might be adopted by other recitalists, though I think we could many of us have done with rather more information—programmes were not provided.

Some "quires a compass," with an initial Allegretto, the pulses racing and a soulful Caña, a tempestuous and a soulful Caña, a testing and a farruca—one made notes in the dark and stylized dark it was, however little anything like gloom could be with this vibrant, tingling welter of sounds coming up in waves. If it's flamenco you want here is the real right indispensible thing and a marvel.

## PURCELL ROOM

Hugo Cole

## Gwenneth Pryor

GWENNETH PRYOR started her Purcell Room recital on Tuesday with Ravel's *Le Tombeau de Couperin*—"daddy handpicking herself," because any piano player who plays the work competes with Ravel's own orchestration of four of the movements, and because the combination of a big, luscious-toned Steinway with this small hall disconcerts the minute, Webern-like inflections of pianissimo which can give life to the music in the Fortane and Menuet, without the magic of the instrumentation, seemed to go on very long indeed. Luckily, there was still the final Toccata to come, which Ravel never orchestrated. A larger scale, pianistically more inventive movement, which suited Miss Pryor (who is at her best, I think, in the grand music) and allowed her to play appropriately in her own way.

Scarlatti's Fourth Sonata was an original and discerning choice. The noble gestures, the excitement and the despondent droopings, were put over so convincingly that we were made to understand how Scarlatti so affected his contemporaries. I am always worried by those short-lived scraps of melody that overlie harmonies and textures as infallibly right in terms of piano technique as anything in Chopin. Like Tchaikovsky, Scarlatti seems to put all of himself, including his weaknesses, into the music, and Gwenneth Pryor came nearer than most to explaining to us what sort of a man he was.

Five small scale Malcolm Williamson preludes on London themes were very skilfully written. I preferred a cheerful theatrical cakewalk to surrounding mood pieces which were content to establish almost without supplying much musical action. The last was to come in Brahms's *Händel Variations*, and here, too, Gwenneth Pryor rose to the occasion.

Some of these notices appeared in later editions yesterday.

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# WOMAN'S GUARDIAN

Shop-window models • Czech glass • Class dilemma

THE PRODUCER and his young assistant are sitting in their crowded atelier. On the untidy desk between them are blown-up black and white photographs of their past shows. Every now and then the producer delves into a drawer and pulls out a new stack of pictures which are proof of his liberated progress over the past 15 years.

"In the past we have been terribly constricted by what we were trying to express," he says. "The mannequins at that time were one of staidness but today we are trying to express a sophistication in what we have to show to the public. The change has been quite recent... in fact only in the past few years. As you can see, in the past, we have been the innovators of some very exciting new ideas. For instance, let me tell you that we were one of the first to bring men and women together without the excuse of having a child in the background. Before that the male and female were segregated. I wouldn't like to play the prophet but I think there is an exciting future for us and that we will have greater freedom to express new ideas."

The shows he produces are not in the theatre nor on the screen but appear weekly at street level as window displays in Liberty's, where he is the display manager. His "men" are the "women" and his "women" are the "men". He is a collector and can discern a reflection of society's moral attitudes. The very earliest, dating back to the fifties, have an inhibited, unnatural look about them. There is an aura of prudery surrounding their stiff-legged, protective-arms stance. They look strait-laced and virginal.

Gradually they change. The arms and wrists become more relaxed, the legs are defiantly spread wider apart and the hair, released from the tight coil, is shaken loose. And most important, the bodies of the female manikins mature to reality. Bosoms become larger and more definite in shape, nipples, from being nonexistent, now pertain to the blouse, and hips and legs are scaled down to the size of a normal woman's. Today the female is as real as she will ever be in order to mirror accurately the permissive fashions of see-through clothes.

Manikins are built not only to reflect the morality of the day but also their locality. On Oxford Street they are not expensive or chic but middle class; on Kings Road flamboyant and gaudy; in Clapham tacky and overcrowded. By its presence in a certain area, the manikin also reflects the economic status of the community. In Kilburn the manikins are harsh, somewhat flashy and cheap. They have a sheen of quick obsolescence about them. In Bond Street they are the complete opposite. They are either sleek swifter creatures or else they are not on display at all which in a way is the ultimate in status: what the store is trying to tell you is that it isn't really a store. Douglas Hayward of Mount Street, for instance, has never had a manikin to show off his well-cut suits because "I want people to come in and feel they are not in a shop."

## Black manikins

To carry this step of manikin identification with a moral, social, and economic group farther, some manufacturers have discovered there is even a prejudice factor involved. Until recently, every "black" manikin that was displayed in a window was really a white manikin painted brown or black. Features were Caucasian and the hair was straight. The exception was the Donyale Luna manikin two years ago but she was limited in supply, famous and isolated in exclusive stores trying to capture the Vogue market. Now Fifth Avenue, on Regent Street, display a range of beautiful, unknown, real black manikins that have Afro and Negroid features.

"We wondered what the public



picture by Don McPhee

## Reflections in a dummy by Timeri Murari

would think," says their display assistant. "On the first day we had a whole crowd of people standing outside the particular window and I think those black manikins really had an enormous impact. Also we found that we had attracted a new clientele of black men and women from the London embassies. But you have to remember that we are a sophisticated store and the people who come here aren't affected by discrimination."

The manufacturers, Hindsaul, however, find there is a limit to their market in black manikins. "We decided to make them," says Ken Beecham, Hindsaul's sales manager, "because there are black models in the fashion pages of nearly every magazine. Apart from Fifth Avenue, the other London stores are very hesitant about using them. Of course, we could never sell them in places like Brixton or Wandsworth. Even in Manchester and Liverpool the stores don't want them. To quote them they say 'We don't know whether the community will appreciate them.' The only provincial town to have them is Edinburgh where Fraser's showed surprising sophistication."

While reality is being pursued in blackness, it is carefully avoided in shape and size. There are no pregnant manikins or short and fat manikins or long and thin manikins. Evans, the outside shop, has only slightly larger than the normal size manikins. "I don't believe women want to be reminded what they really look like when they pass our windows," says Alan Millard, the display manager of Selfridges. "I'd never allow an old looking manikin in our window. What we have in its place is a... more elegant looking one. She has more grace and just that touch of maturity."

What all this means is that the stores are trying to get into your mind

and create not you but an illusion of what you think you look like. It is a manipulation of your habits and neuroses as definite as the spot commercial on television. In display the live people parts are played by manikins.

Before 1968 the manikin market in England was a dreary place. Nearly all of them had to be imported from either France or the United States and they never quite fulfilled the wishes of the display people. Then Adel Rootstein, working from her kitchen, began making manikins that had a frightening resemblance to reality. Her idea of a breakthrough in the stalemate was to make accurate models of the most fashionable people in England.

"I began making manikins because I thought the old ones were so unreal. I wanted a woman to look into a window and recognise herself. The old manikins desexualised women. Mine make her aware of her breasts and hips and thighs and waist... yes, that she does have nipples. When you look at my manikin I want it to look right back at you and you must feel that it could actually speak to you."

Manikins are a comparatively recent innovation in the merchandising of clothes. They first came into existence through Madame Tussaud's wax dummies in the mid-nineteenth century; and these were used more as a gimmick than to show off clothes. Though wax made skin look translucent and the arms and legs were tactile, it also had the dangerous property of melting under bright lights or in the sun. However, because clothes in those days were hand tailored rather than ready-made it wasn't until the 1920s that manikins were used for displaying fashion. In the 1920s the manikin, which had progressed to being made out of plaster,

and weighed 150 pounds, copied the slim line and the horeodum of art moderne. The 1930s reached a peak in manikin madness. An American sculptor made "Cynthia" out of soap and apart from touring the US successfully, she received hundreds of letters proposing marriage and hundreds of others begging her to give up her rich life and help the farmers in the dust bowls. While today the manikin is a cool figure, "Cynthia" represented the hot medium of 1930s advertising. The glass fibre forerunner of today's first appeared in the early 1950s. It weighed 25 pounds and needed a minimum of maintenance.

## Window shyness

The 1970 manikin is made of glass fibre and polyurethane. It takes nearly two hours to create its hair style and another two hours to put on its oil paint make-up. Both these items are very often specifically ordered by a store which proves, in spite of denials, that they are trying to identify with their average customer: whether she be hip or straight.

While the manikin itself has been released from the straitjacket of morality, many stores still suffer from shyness when they change her clothes. Rather than have nudity in their windows, some stores veil the operation; others pick a Sunday morning when not too many people are around; and still others whip them down to the basement.

There is a certain insanity surrounding manikins. Rootstein wouldn't allow either the photographer or me to enter the sculptor's studio as he was in the throes of next year's creations. Display people stubbornly insist that

a manikin is only a clothes peg but are quite happy to spend between £40 and £50 to procure the right "peg" for their clothes.

Manikins inspire even ordinary people to acts of insanity. One maker recalls that a group of professors from Cambridge University borrowed one of his female manikins. They placed her nude in the bed of one of their driest colleagues, made him completely drunk at a dinner, and tucked him into bed. They returned early the next morning to find and watch him awake to his bed companion. A more macabre story involves a couple in New York who used manikins to re-enact the assassination of President Kennedy at one of their successful parties. Other lighter jokes have included placing a female manikin on the toilet during an overcrowded party in order to study the discomfort of the guests. The strangest manikin on display is at Sigel and Stockman's, the oldest firm in the business. "Sue" is made of green felt, has the breasts and shoulders of a woman and the neck and head of an exquisite rhesus monkey. They refuse to divulge why they made her but say there is a great private demand for her services. Some time ago a famous woman walked in and wanted to buy it. Sigel and Stockman refused but permitted her to borrow it. The next day the woman's equally famous husband collected the creature and sent the firm a photograph of how they used it in their party.

Display people, having discovered reality in the woman's body, are now thinking of returning to the fantasy of Rita Hayworth/Greta Garbo models. The excitement in the manikin world today revolves around the male figure and the term "reality" is now being used to mean the possibility of a showing male genitalia in order to display tight trousers and swim wear.

## Who's who?

### MARY STOTT tries to define the working class

WHILE LAWYERS and authors bite their nails trying to define obscenity, another problem of definition is teasing me: what is "working class"? William Davis's admirable Aunt Bertha ought really to be asking this question, because the obviously doesn't mind abrasing sore spots in her search for enlightenment, and I do. I have learned that of all the sore places the unsavory newspaper writer can jab at, class is the most common and most exposed. It is all right, in fact fine, to say "I am working class." To say "you are working class" would be insulting, and even to say "they are working class" is thought to be patronising.

Knowing this, why do I nerve myself to grasp the nettle? Because it bedevils discussion of so many social problems, not least the problem of women's liberation. At one of the excellent discussion evenings organised this autumn by Liverpool University's Institute of Extension Studies, I spoke about the new pattern of "companionate" marriage I see emerging. Predictably, an earnest young woman rebuked me. "That may be so in the middle class but not in the working class." In a few days I shall be discussing women's liberation "from a middle-class point of view" with a vivacious and able young woman who will put "the working-class" view. I hope she can map the ground she stands on for I can't.

I think of myself as in every way a "middle" kind of person, by intelligence, education, income, background, speech. I do not define myself by class. Few journalists do, having had to learn to talk comfortably with all sorts and conditions of people—though there are columnists whose "working-class background" is an enviable rich vein for exploration. To come from a working-class home is much more respectable nowadays than to have a father who was a colonel in the Indian Army, a merchant banker, or a harristier-at-law. It's an odd turn of the wheel that it is as legitimate today to jeer at a man whose father has done well "in trade" as it was in Trollope's day... for exactly the opposite reason.

But all this, of course, is dodging the question: what about the qualifications for being working class?

Not "working" for almost everyone works. (I won't go on about that, because however true it may be that the tycoon and his lady "work" in some fashion or other, there is nothing more offensive than hearing them say a just as "working" as the other people to work twice as hard at beastly jobs for a fraction of the money.)

## Not manual work

Working class cannot be defined by income. The average wage for engineers is £21-£1,092 a year. "New Society" carries job advertisements for occupational therapists in the salary range £924-£1,203.

Working class is not definable as manual work—overalls rather than white collar. Boiler-suited engineers and technicians may have degrees.

Working class is not working for a weekly wage (a high proportion of journalists, for example, are "freelance" or "contract" employees). A high proportion of "wage slaves" work in nationalised industries.)

Are only people who work in factories and mines, on docks, the land and building sites truly working class? How do you rate a postman and a post office clerk, a bus driver and a taxi driver, a typist and a shop assistant?

Definitions by pay and by job have got hopelessly blurred, and definitions by social mores, by habits or spending and leisure pursuits have become ludicrous. Really, a teacher told me that when she asked her class, in a very "deprived" area of London, if any of them had a tape recorder, nearly every hand shot up. Saying that, I can sense the heckles rising. Why shouldn't they have tape recorders? Why not, indeed? Why not the telly and the car and the holiday in Majorca? Like pop music, Marks and Sparks, and the "Daily Mirror," what's good for the colonel's lady is good for Joe's O'Donnell and shows they are sisters under the skin.

## More a feeling

Surely working class is now more a matter of feeling than fact? But a very deep, strong feeling, the result of being shoved around by the bosses, the bureaucracy, the State: the result of having been poor, and because poor, powerless. But those workers today who are organised in strong trade unions are not powerless. The real poor, the totally powerless, are the people who do not and cannot work for pay... children, the old, the unsupported housebound mothers. And that is where I came in... being an unsupported mother has a great deal to do with the ferment about women's liberation: it has little to do with "class."

If Women's Lib draws much of its support from the so-called middle class, so do the Child Poverty Action Group, Shelter, the National Association for the Unmarried Mother and her Child, Mothers in Action. To call these "class-based" organisations is to take a political stance that is old-fashioned and defeatist. And mean-spirited? Is the wife of a well-paid factory worker really less able to help to do with the ferment about women's liberation: it has little to do with "class."

Oh help, let's plunge right into a bed of nettles... the factory worker's wife may in fact be less able to organise voluntary aid, because she may be less articulate and self-confident. In fact, though the division by income and job has blurred, the division by education persists. A more honest definition of classes than "upper," "middle," and "working" would be "public school," "grammar school," and "secondary mod." Even our accents, to our national shame, indicate our educational, rather than our socio-economic class.

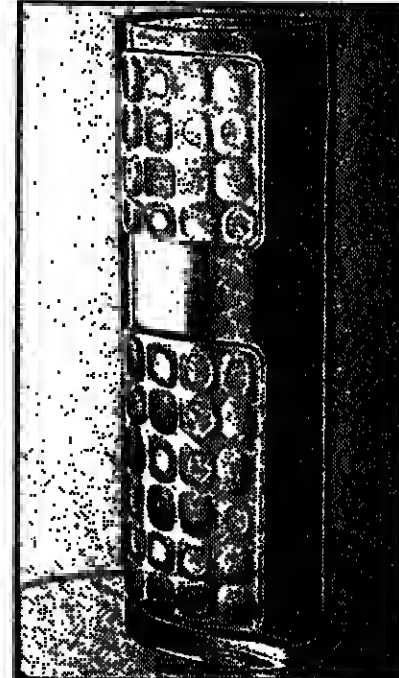
But then, you may say, who am I, a "middle" kind of person, to attempt to define "working class"? Perhaps you are only entitled to define it if you are conscious of having been horn working class and are now no longer so?



Left: from the Moser Glassworks—"Imprisoned tears," by Vera Liskova—for mass production, but unfortunately not chosen by buyers for sale in Great Britain

Right: rough sculpture in pale green sandblasted crystal, by Kepka, it won an Oscar at the CIFE exhibition in Paris this year

Far right: hand-engraved glass by Dagmar Hrabankova—an example of the "graduation piece" pupils leave behind at the School of Applied Arts for Glassmakers at Zelazny Brod



## Look what you're missing

by DIANA POLLOCK

AT ANY international exhibition the Czechs win gold medals as well as unstinted admiration for the beauty and originality of their glass. But there is a horrid gap between all this splendour and what eventually turns up on the shelves of the average British shop. There are several answers to what happens between the fountain head and the drinking cup. The main fault, alas, is more in ourselves than in the state over Bohemia.

The glass industry is still of enormous financial importance to the Czech economy though it has slipped back into fourth or fifth place as one might expect of a nation now heavily committed to an Eastern block development programme where tractors take precedence over consumer goods. There is also more competition in the international glass field. Prewar the Scandinavians were scarcely heard of in the glass and china department of Selfridges.

Prague has always been at the trading crossroads of Europe between the cultures of East and West. It is so still and in a way even more importantly than before, for the modern outlook and exuberance of modern Czech design is a recognition point for all Western cultures and stands out sparkling clear against the sombre and old-fashioned visual attitudes of most Communist States.

Instead of separate sales forces from each factory Glassexport, the Government organisation, with a single sales force sells the output of all Czech glass factories. They take the orders too, and this is where the mischief creeps in. It hardly matters how original or inspired the artists work if the retail buyer demands large quantities of some hasty design. "I'll have that bowl shape, on that

other stem, with the decoration over there."

The argument is "We know what the public wants." Only partly true though it's an old, old wrangle. Given the choice between what's simple and perhaps near-beautiful and the horrendous (price being equal) which would sell? No one really ever tries to find out though there are a few dedicated shops in Britain who keep their integrity shining clean—but guess who's making the dough.

The Czechs find that conspicuous display is what the Italians like. Great cut-glass vases in lead crystal—most beautifully worked by craftsmen who could give the same loving care to any design. The less decorated shapes don't sell as well as the dear old faithful hominal and glass surfaces cut within an inch of their life. Who shall blame the Czechs if they sell what we order and keep their skilled craftsmen, cutters, and engravers in work?

Buyers from all over the world go to the Bohemian glass factories. At any one time, at the Golden Lion Hotel at Liberec, the glass centre for Glassexport, the tables are full of buyers from Poland, Australia, Italy, Britain, South Africa—the Americans are a bit jumpy about buying from a Communist country at the moment. These are the men, retail buyers or import agents, who decide what we shall see. There is, of course, a major export of industrial glass which includes laboratory glass. For the consumer field 80 per cent goes out in table glass, chandeliers, and mass-produced designs, both hand-blown and moulded. It is in the art glass that the Czechs excel and this now takes up the remaining 20 per cent. A market that is growing all the time.

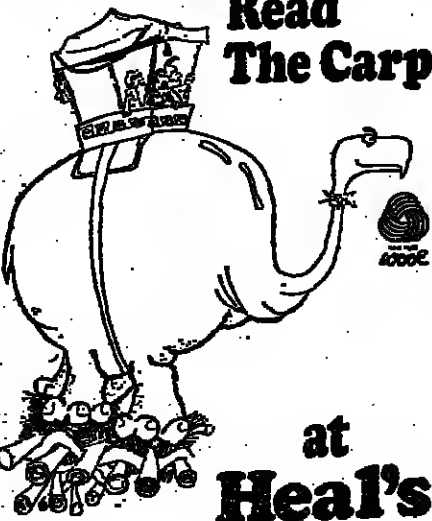
Most of the Czech art glass comes under a sculpture heading. The blown glass shapes,

beasts, birds, people, by Vera Liskova; the sandblasted green chunks of Kepka which won an Oscar at the CIFE exhibition in Paris this year. The pillars of glass like frozen ice cascades by Rene Roubicek lift the spirits. Svetkova's paper-weights, even Ladislav Jezek's engraved blocks in great chunks of crystal, are all witness to what the Czechs produce but which we seldom see within hugging distance.

The training for glass craftsmen and designers is long and dedicated. Four years at the Secondary School of Applied Arts for Glassmakers in Zelazny Brod from the age of 15. The students are chosen by examination, drawing, modelling, and the making of an original piece of glass to give the professors an idea, from the start, which course their students will follow. There are seven different branches including glass-blowing (the most highly paid eventually), cutting, and engraving. Other subjects are taught during the four year course, including the theory of economics, foreign languages, physics, geology... There's a job waiting list for graduates in every technique and those best suited go on to the Academy in Prague eventually setting up their own studios or working within any suitable factory.

Although run-of-the-mill Czech glass is on sale at Selfridges, John Lewis, Harrods, and so on it is maddening to think of all the lovely things—art glass or just table glass—we never see. Not because of any iron curtain but because of closed minds of our own importers and store buyers. Would it just be possible for the enterprising Czechs to put on a buying show of their most modern and exciting for the public and so confound the constipation of mind now restricting their imports?

Heal's, Wool and Georgian are the Carpet People. Read The Carpet People



at Heal's Tottenham Court Road, London W.1.



## Facets of Irish truth

The Compton report is already being interpreted to mean what its various interpreters want it to mean. The exaggerators are not helping to restore peace and sense in Northern Ireland. In yesterday's emergency debate in the Commons, Colonel Mitchell said that the report utterly confirmed the high reputation of the British army, which is not the whole truth. At the other extreme, Mr. McManus talked of a "brutal and invading army" and of many other myths as well, including the preposterous suggestion that Sir Edmund Compton had cooked his evidence to suit the Government. Mr. Fitt, in his statement in Belfast on Tuesday, produced the pernicious fantasy that the Compton report showed the British Army's interrogation methods were "far worse than those employed by the Russians or the Chinese." Mr. Fitt should tell that to the Hungarians and Czechs, or to the British and other UN servicemen who were interrogated by the Chinese in North Korea. Many men died under interrogation by the Chinese.

Some of the things that were done to internees under interrogation in Northern Ireland ought not to have been done. There was ill treatment, as Sir Edmund terms it. But to compare the British Army's interrogation methods with those of the Chinese or Russians is, on Sir Edmund's findings, totally unwarranted.

Most members of Parliament now seem to agree with the Government that the nature and rigor of the army's interrogation methods must be examined further. The Compton report confirmed that there had been ill-treatment and deliberate attempts to make men afraid and to exhaust them physically. But the report did not show that the interrogators had exceeded their instructions. The question now is what instruc-

tions does Parliament wish to put in their place. Parliament—and not the army, as Mr. Callaghan stressed yesterday—must now decide how far a democratic society can allow its military servants to go in their search for intelligence. Intelligence is vital in a war against terrorists; lack of it means that civilians will be killed and injured. But in fighting the terrorists the army is acting in the name of Parliament and of the country as a whole. The House, as Mr. Callaghan said, will have to ask itself to define the point at which ill-treatment descends into brutality. The House will also have to ask itself how far Parliament can properly sanction the rough handling and coercion of people who have been taken into custody even when the object is to save lives. The answers are not easily given.

There is another question at which Parliament may have to look—the demand for censorship of news and broadcasts from Northern Ireland. It is a mistaken and misguided demand. It does not come from the army, which has pursued a sensibly open policy, but from a minority of MPs. Censorship does not in itself create security; rather it creates doubt and suspicion. People will ask what is being hidden. Even at a time of total war, censorship in this country was used only to prevent premature disclosure of military movements, of operational plans, and of weapons design. It was not used to stop reporters talking to troops. There are occasions when reporters and cameramen have to exercise restraint: they cannot expect immediate answers from a commander dealing with a riot. They must also take care to present as balanced a picture as circumstances permit. But if there have been errors, the remedy does not lie in imposing censorship. That will only undermine the public's confidence that it is being told the truth.

## Dollars and the alliance

Politics, Bismarck is credited with saying is only concentrated economics. Certainly the crisis in the world's trading and monetary systems has obvious political implications. To judge from Mr. John Connally's latest speech, the United States is still determined to take a tough line with the other major trading nations in the Western alliance. The reverberations could well shake NATO and all West Europe's defensive arrangements, in addition to changing the balance of power in the Middle East. Perhaps, as the possibilities are seen, President Nixon's advisers will draw back. If not, the consequences could do more towards dismantling existing Western defence than the Warsaw Pact's planners have ever imagined in their wildest dreams.

The United States is still determined that others will agree to a radically new pattern of exchange rates. Washington is equally insistent that her trading partners must be prepared to abandon a range of trading practices objected to by US business. In addition US spokesmen have made it clear that a solution to the problems of the dollar can only be achieved when the other nations also shoulder a far heavier share of the cost of paying for the Western military effort. It is this last demand which is now causing anxious debate within NATO itself.

So far the US has not made public any figure for the increased share of its defence costs that it wants borne by the NATO nations and Japan. But US spokesmen have said that the object of the sharing of defence costs, the abolition of "unfair" trade practices, and the new currency parities would be to produce a turnaround of \$13,000 millions in the US balance of payments. Coincidentally the annual cost to the United States of American forces assigned to NATO is a similar figure. This has led some observers in Washington to speculate that the Administration is anxious to shift about one-third of this total on to Western European shoulders. Although a transfer on this scale would be enormous, there are signs that the Americans will take as tough a stand on military support costs as they are

on the other contentious currency and trade issues. In his New York speech this week Mr. Connally hinted again that failure to reach agreement between the US and her allies would encourage isolationist pressures within America. In other words, if NATO is not prepared to share the burden President Nixon will be under increasing pressure to accelerate the withdrawal of the American military presence in Europe.

In response, there are various attitudes that the West European members of NATO can adopt. The first is to pay up and shut up. There will be a strong temptation to do just that. But the probable size of the economic sacrifice being demanded by Washington will strengthen the hands both of latent neutralists and of neo-Gaullists in Europe. Both will object to American high-pressure politics and claim that the international economic outlook is too uncertain for most Europeans to be able to shoulder such high additional burdens to their balance of payments.

Thereafter the neutralists and the neo-Gaullists will take a different line. The neutralists will say that an American withdrawal is no bad thing: a conventional invasion of Western Europe by the Warsaw Pact states is unlikely and any nuclear blackmail from the East would still involve the US. Therefore, the neutralists will argue, disengagement from NATO is safe and can encourage a parallel movement away from dependence on Russia within the Warsaw Pact. The neo-Gaullists will argue the exact opposite: that Europe must recognise the fact of America's economic decline and provide her own nuclear shield—at whatever economic price. This case may be received with some sympathy by the British Government, for Mr. Heath has spoken of a nuclear force "held in trust for Europe." But the cost will be huge and the credibility of a small European nuclear force will be doubtful.

If the tough American line is pushed to its logical conclusion, one of these options will have to be adopted by the West European members of NATO. None of them is comfortable, to say the least. Fortunately we are some way yet from having to decide directly on any of the three.

## For the aggrieved citizen

Most of the complaints aimed at the Ombudsman are about local government and are instantly disqualified for that reason. Mr. Peter Walker's promise of "a proper ombudsman system in local government" is therefore directed at a real problem. In theory the local councillor ought to be acting as the grievance man, but in practice he does not do it very well. For one thing, the councillor is often directly implicated in the actions complained about. Correspondingly a complaints counter at the town hall may seem to be altogether too much on the defensive, and judge in its own cause. The case for an independent local ombudsman to bear complaints about local administration was recognised by Mr. Wilson as long ago as July, 1964, and the promise of ombudsmen for local government was made by Mr. Crosland when Labour adopted the Redcliffe-Maud scheme for local government reform. Action

must still await the legislation promised by Mr. Walker (though some local authorities have already made experiments of their own in providing machinery for dealing with complaints).

The somewhat muted and private performance of the Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration (to give the Ombudsman his full formidable title) has not been too encouraging. His usefulness has been reduced by keeping him at arm's length from the public (complaints have to be passed on through MPs), by screening his activities from publicity, and by restricting the area of his functions. The British experience so far has been analysed in a new book by Frank Stacey ("The British Ombudsman", from the Oxford University Press at £4). The lesson to be drawn is not that the appointment is mere window-dressing, but that the redress of grievances should be made easier to come by for the ordinary citizen.

## A COUNTRY DIARY

NORTH DEVON: How better to see one's home-ground with fresh eyes than through the delight of strangers? Anyone who has travelled here will know that it is a bumpy sort of district; but the bumps are, I have to insist, hills and not mountains. We drive through these "mountains" along snaking highways from which the colours of the Fall are seen to be attaining their most vivid hue. The absence of billboards is a worthy conversational topic, and the quality of the road surface is "just fantastic." We stop at a junction and let our gaze fall lovingly along a stretch of it: it is "paved." There are I point out seven thousand miles of unclassified roads in Devon surfaced in a similar manner. Skirting round Exmoor we call at a meet of the Exmoor Foxhounds. The "dogs" move off into a field of kale, instantly a fox goes out at the other end. A classic gallop of mounted followers ensues, across the fields. It is a scene such as you might have expected to experience only through the medium of a hunting print—a movie director could not have asked for more! One of our most dramatic landscape features is the Valley of Rocks, a sea-dissected river valley, at Lynton. The embattled cliffs and rearing piles of rock are enough to produce feelings of vertigo in anyone. But seemingly more significant than the hanging valley are the familiar stones, lying loose; one has passed them a hundred times or more. Such stones, unknown in the great alluvial plain, are greatly appreciated by two guests from Mississippi; two together.

BRIAN CHUGG

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Schools dogma

Sir—If your report (November 10) is to be believed, Margaret Thatcher is getting pretty desperate in her defence of allocating all the "improvement" money to primary schools. She maintains that secondary schools have previously had an unfair share of resources. Your report then mentions that from 1965 to 1967 nearly £43 millions were spent on secondary schools compared with only £18 millions on primary schools. As Margaret Thatcher knows very well those two years were untypical high years for secondary school improvement.

The facts (from Hansard, July 28, 1971) are as follows:

Year	Primary	Secondary	Total
65-66	8.4	35.5	43.9
66-67	10.6	29.3	39.9
67-68	14.3	13.1	27.4
68-69	7.5	8.7	16.2
69-70	14.5	11.5	26.0
70-71	11.5	2.0	13.5
71-72	16.5	2.5	19.0
72-73	43.5	—	43.5
73-74	48.0	—	48.0

Thus, before the onset of

Margaret Thatcher's policy, the balance between primary and secondary schools was being redressed. Some £64 millions were spent on the former and £38 millions on the latter. After a year or two more of the same balance, the primaries would have caught up.

Of course, between 1969 and 1972 the secondary schools have had the school leaving age programme, which must be held to contain an "improvement" element. And, of course, none of these figures are much value unless set against an agreed measure of need, which is not available.

But there is no ground, on Margaret Thatcher's argument, for denying secondary schools any improvement. The real basis for this is dogma: the Secretary of State is determined to prevent any local authority having any flexibility of provision which might enable it to abolish selection. She cannot cut out "roofs over heads" but she will cut out "improvement." No Education Minister since the war has been so blatantly and squally partisan about resources. — Yours sincerely,

Tyrell Burgess.  
34 Sandilands,  
Croydon, Surrey.



MRS THATCHER on a school visit: "partisan about resources."

### Labour's alienated voters

Sir—It is difficult to follow the logic of your argument in your leading article, "Labour's Choice of Image" (November 15). You say that the re-election of Roy Jenkins as Deputy Leader will help to hold the Labour Party together and it will help to reassure the kind of people whom Labour must attract at the next election.

But is it an historical fact that Roy Jenkins was in situ when Labour lost the last election. As an active campaigner I found that people, rich or poor, were not so much interested in the restoration of the balance of payments. They were outraged at the means by which this was achieved — disastrous housing cuts, the broken pledge to raise

the school-leaving age, the blasphemous reintroduction of prescription charges, the first inroads on school milk and meals.

Many voters saw Roy Jenkins as an essential protagonist of the "In Place of Strife" policy and of support for the Parliamentary Labour Party's (but not the Government's) sustaining of American policy in Vietnam.

Roy Jenkins has many virtues, which would he all the more acceptable without eager P.M. campaigns. But being an electoral asset is not one of them, though that may well be no reason for not voting for him. The "kind of people" who will be persuaded to vote Labour because of him next time may well be no more than those who

failed to ensure a Labour victory last time.

In my experience these people were infinitely fewer than the outraged, alienated and disappointed one-time Labour faithfuls who withheld both their votes and their work at the last election—it was their only sanction.

How do you know that the floaters who would be frightened by Michael Foot would not be outnumbered by the temporary absentee supporters who might begin to feel that the Labour Party had stopped playing consensus politics and had taken a step towards the Socialist principles which it was born to serve? — Yours sincerely,

Lena M. Jeger.  
House of Commons.

### Parks surrender

Sir—You are doubtless right in claiming that any county council which does not provide a full-time staff for a National Park under its control will appear to be failing in its duty, but this in itself is no sufficient safeguard. The Countryside Act (1968) requires highway authorities, county councils included, to erect signposts "at every point where a footpath or highway leaves a metalled road" but by no means all of them have done so and it seems to be nobody's business to make them do their duty. The agreement between the Countryside Commission and the county councils is a sequel to the Government's rejection of Sir Jack Langland's recommendation, endorsed by the commission, that at every National Park should be governed by an independent committee, as the Peak Park is at present. It represents a surrender to county council pressure and is a disappointingly retrograde step.

Do we want to provide crutches for people who could stand straight if we didn't keep breaking their legs? "Want" is relative; it is the creation of spendthrifts, of the over-fed, the complacent, the predatory and the over-paid. Of course you're not over-paid, sir; no one will ever admit he is; but the real resources you squander are surely excessive.

Angus Calder.  
1 Randolph Place,  
Edinburgh 3.

### 'Secrecy' over the free milk

Sir—Your report on the view taken by the Association of Municipal Corporations concerning confidential documents will, I hope, be brought to the notice of all local authorities, particularly the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea, where secrecy is the order of the day.

Far from revealing confidential documents to the press, it is impossible for elected councillors of the minority party to obtain copies of documents, not classed even as confidential, prepared for the London Boroughs Association, on which we have no representative member.

I refer to two counsels' opinions concerning the legacy of the provision of free school milk for seven- to 12-year-olds by the boroughs.

As the spokesman of the

minority party on the Health Committee, I requested copies of these documents, after a résumé of their contents had been presented to this committee. Neither the Medical Officer of Health, nor the Town Clerk could produce them, the latter having been "instructed" not to do this.

At the next council meeting this request was again refused by Sir Mally Crofton, the leader of the majority party.

My own view, and that of my colleagues, including qualified lawyers, is that these documents should be made available to elected councillors on request, particularly since on the issue of free school milk the decision seems to hang on a legal thread.—Yours truly,

Patricia Seers.  
15 Hobury Street,  
Chelsea, London SW 10.

### The threat to Peredur school

Sir—Your report (November 8) of the national failure to provide adequate facilities for the specialised education of autistic children places in better perspective the work at Peredur School which you had featured four days previously. Although Peredur is one of only four schools in the country which provide educational treatment for autistic and psychotic children, and the only one to cater also for adolescents, its very existence is now being threatened by the thoughtless proposal to build the East Grinstead by-pass through its farm and grounds and even close to

its hostel and classrooms. This by-pass will inevitably derange the tranquil atmosphere which the school authorities have found so necessary for the successful treatment of these unfortunate children, and it will expose the children to greatly increased levels of toxic pollutants, notably carbon monoxide and lead, both of which can harm the central nervous system. . . . I cannot believe that the County Council will wish knowingly to expose them to further risk.

D. Bryce-Smith.  
Department of Chemistry,  
Reading University.

Mark Leech.  
Bradfield College,  
Reading,  
Berks.

These are acts of intolerance on both sides and they have merely succeeded in furthering the collapse of the mutual acquiescence vital to education. The apparent reluctance of the headmaster to act upon the wishes of the boys is damaging to the master-boy relationship, which is so necessary to a good education.

Mark Leech.  
Bradfield College,  
Reading,  
Berks.

### Probation moves forward

Sir—Your report on Mr. Nigel Grindrod's comments on probation (Guardian, November 15) doubtless emphasises only some of his points. Mr. Grindrod hardly he unaware that many of us in the probation service are already experimenting with more meaningful methods of supervision. It would be a pity if your readers did not appreciate that a fund of new ideas exists in imaginative schemes being tried out in various parts of the country.

Increased involvement in the community and the use of group work methods could reinforce both probation and after-care work. But if these schemes are to become more widespread, and particularly if the appropriate settings are to be available, then the proper resources will have to be supplied.

The probation service has in the past proved its flexibility and its readiness to take up more effective methods of working. I believe that, given the resources, the service will continue to meet this challenge.—

17 Russell Place, E. 3, Lewis.  
Long Eaton, Nottingham.

### Eroding values

Sir—Internment without trial is the anti-democratic measure which allows patriots such as the one for "patriotic censorship" made by some Conservative backbenchers to further erode society's values.

What was that about patriotism being the last refuge of a scoundrel? And how will the defenders of democracy tread the line between those two necessities of the Compton report—"physical ill-treatment" and "brutality"? —Yours sincerely,

9 Rixheads Road,  
Balgate, Surrey.

### Hey, presto!

Sir—Sir Neville Cardus is woefully mistaken if he believes that after studying for a year he could compose music like Stockhausen. He could manage it in a week.—Sincerely,

Benny Green.  
King's Langley, Herts.

## Whither the wooing now?

HELLA PICK on Europe's reaction to Mr Heath's advances to the French

THE picture of Edward Heath as an architect is slightly out of keeping, but there is no doubt that his approach as far as France is concerned. Last May there was the summit in Paris; only last week there were all those pictures of the Prime Minister talking happily with M. Maurice Schumann (coupled with all the backstage efforts to make the French Foreign Minister's visit to London agreeable).

There is the decision to have the Queen pay another "state" visit to France. Above all, there are the attempts to paper over policy differences, and present a common position on such questions as the project for a European security conference, on the international monetary crisis, on the future shape of the Community. Mr. Heath is engaged in a quite deliberate operation to win President Pompidou's trust and achieve a marriage of reason between France and Britain.

There is a growing body of opinion that warily believes Mr. Heath's objective to be the creation of a French nuclear force. The French are far from convinced, and so far refuse to give encouragement. But Mr. Heath is a persistent man, and believes that time is on his side.

The rest of the Community is watching the operation with a mixture of satisfaction and suspicion: satisfaction because Heath's efforts to win French support no doubt played a part in removing the French veto on British Common Market membership; suspicion because a great many question marks hang over the Prime Minister's objectives now in cementing the entente cordiale more firmly than ever.

### Green light

The Germans are most deeply concerned. There is little personal warmth in the relationship between Heath's Government and Willy Brandt's. Germany had looked forward to Britain's membership of the EEC to build a triumvirate in the Community which would counterbalance the French and the Americans. Now they question whether the situation does not have the makings of an eternal triangle with all the machination and suspicion this involves even in a permissive age.

When President Pompidou dropped his objection to British Common Market membership there was much speculation over his motives. Did he give the go-ahead at the Community's summit in December 1968, the light went really green only this spring when there was no longer any doubt that Germany was regaining its political confidence, and intended to use its economic strength to back political objectives.

It is a little naïf to assume that this is the natural ally in his determination to build a European Community composed of nation states, coming together for common objectives, but stopping short of federation. Yet this is not so immediately relevant. Nobody can really predict at this point how the Community will develop, and much will depend on whether the EEC's project for economic and monetary union will ever get seriously off the ground.

That project would only make sense if there were centralised decision-making on many vital aspects of economic policy. Neither France nor Britain is ready to face these implications.

### Special access

Mr. Heath does however seem to have succeeded in persuading France that Britain has really broken the umbilical cord with the United States and that he is far more ready to abandon the "special relationship" with Washington than a Germany which still attaches immense importance to the presence of US troops in Europe. The last act in ending this special relationship with the US will come when Britain decides to call on the US Congress to amend the MacMahon Act under which Britain has special access to US nuclear technology.

France has made it plain that she will not discuss nuclear cooperation with Britain while the obstacle of the MacMahon Act remains. But the French are also more reserved because they see perhaps more clearly than Mr. Heath the problem which mere open talk about an Anglo-French nuclear force would pose for Germany.

It is all very well for Mr. Heath to talk (as he has done in his Godkin lectures) of an Anglo-French nuclear force in trust for Europe. It would be politically irresponsible to conceive of European nuclear force which sought to exclude Germany from the band from the trigger. On the other hand, the USSR is bound to maintain its resolute opposition to the idea of giving Germany direct control over the use of nuclear weapons. Even if the German band were bound to a West European nuclear defence command, Russia would see it as a major obstacle to European unification.

France would dearly love to lead the Western cohorts in condemnation, and pressing hard to achieve the kind of European security conference that would blur blurr politics in Europe. In this context nuclear talk with Britain would only be counter-productive. But then Mr. Heath does not really believe that France or anyone else will achieve spectacular results from a security conference. His grand design for Britain and France may receive a more sympathetic hearing later. That is Germany's fear.



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THREE men matter at Westminster in making policy on Northern Ireland. They are Mr Edward Heath, the Prime Minister, Mr Reginald Maudling, the Home Secretary, and Lord Carrington, Secretary for Defence. There are some important differences in their positions but in what for the time being, is the essential issue, they agree.

That is that there is no point in doing something for the sake of doing something, no point in pretending now to have the solution which has eluded their predecessors for some 400 years, and therefore a strong case for relying on the latest military advice which is, that by around the end of the year the security situation may have improved quite dramatically. We have reached the Westmoreland or MacArthur stage of the affair.

My purpose on this occasion is simply to report what I understand to be the views of the three men who



Peter Jenkins on the Ministers who minister to Ulster

## Three men in a boat

count at the head of the Government. Their starting point is that there is not much to be done for the moment. The next political initiative will be "Faulkner plus" but probably not very much plus.

Mr Heath at the Guildhall on Monday night once suggested how it ought to be possible for it to be regarded as less than treason to argue for a peaceful and constitutional change in the status of Northern Ireland. Mr Faulkner has indicated in his Green Paper on parliamentary reform that a more "broadly-based administration" would have to rest on complete acceptance of Northern Ireland's constitutional status.

There is some room for manoeuvre here but not very much. Mr Faulkner is inhibited not by the small print of his Green Paper but by the political pressures under which he works. And British Ministers freely recognise the immense difficulties of operating a coalition rooted in fundamental differences about the Border. They are inclined to say "Brian has really come a very long way; a year ago he couldn't have produced a Green Paper like this". Exactly. That is the nature of a Northern Ireland's Prime Minister's position: by definition he has to move a year, if not 50 years, behind the times.

That leaves the "we must get on top of the gunmen" but it will take time" policy to which the Prime Minister and the Government have found no alternative. It's not like Algeria and still less like Vietnam because it is all taking place in Britain. The Northern Irish are British. We and they, the British, are up against highly organised and efficient urban guerrillas who don't want a political solution of any kind. If Ireland was united tomorrow, the argument goes, the gunmen would mow down Prime Minister Jack Lynch in Dublin. For the IRA are revolutionaries. Ministers here tend to get a bit confused about the two wings of the

Bank Holiday—or Christmas 1972. Secondly, give Mr Faulkner more time. He is doing his best. He will move further if he can. He can be pushed a little further than that. If Faulkner falls it will come to direct rule. But at least then there might be some moderate Protestant support for direct rule as an alternative to Paisley rule. At the moment direct rule would put everybody against you.

Lurking beneath this policy are many doubts and dreams. Ministers are fed to the teeth with the Irish and beginning to get squeamish about the coercion policy. While arguing that it is best to do nothing very much when there is nothing very much which can be done, they are ready—almost eager to discuss long range solutions—re-partition, exchange of populations, unification. This history is repeating itself in this one precise sense: nobody knows what to do and therefore nobody is going to do it until it is too late and no enough.



Michael Lake on a new kind of pest power

## Antic roast

THE termite, traditionally regarded as the fellow who brought the house down, is today presented in an exciting and more constructive role as a highly nutritious food. This elevation of the termite from his hitherto unloved status of unmitigated pest will be welcomed in few quarters, but the topic earns a full chapter in a new book—*Termites—A World Problem*, by Dr Norman Hickin.

Termites are not only good food value, they are practically fantastic. A bargain purchase of lightly-roasted winged termites bought in a market place in Kinshasa, capital of the Congo, had a fat content of 44.40 per cent, a protein content of 36 per cent and amazing calorific value.

The number of calories per gramme of cheddar cheese is 386. The same figure for rump steak is only 322. But a gramme of termites gives 560 calories.

One of the researchers into this esoteric subject reports that in Uganda, termite colonies are regularly cropped for food. One was noted for its ability to produce four sacks of termites annually. This researcher also reported that when he sampled a serving of termites in Uganda he found they had a "rather gritty" taste.

### Fighters

In the Amazon some tribes are known to prefer soldier termites for reasons best known to themselves, although this may have something to do with the inspiration of warrior instincts and blind courage.

Dr Hickin, who is the scientific director of the pest control company Kentokill, goes on a bit more about soldier termites, which helps explain a bit more about the Amazonians, especially those who live on the left bank.

He says these soldiers are very long and will only attack when the enemy is on their right. There are also illustrations of nasute soldiers which, although blind, can accurately spray poison from their heads: and there is a four-inch long queen which lays—or sprays—several eggs every minute for up to 15 years, which is one of the original causes of Dr Hickin's timely book.

### Sleeper havoc

Termites are found mostly in the Caribbean, Africa and Australasia—they have, among the tramine sleepers in Auckland, New Zealand, until the local council bought a fleet of trolley-buses. They should never be called white ants. In fact, their closest relatives are cockroaches.

Fossils show that termites have been around for 200 million years and they currently cause £500 million worth of damage to timber every year. There is no immediate danger in Britain. The only colonies are held by Kentokill at their East Grinstead laboratory, and by Forest Products research laboratory at Princes Risborough.

The Centre for Overseas Pest Research is considering building a termitarium in London as a sort of public entertainment. The immediate problem is termite proof since at least one termitologist is known to have had his termitarium collapse when the floor show broke loose.

"THE question arises why should violence have to be portrayed at all on television? The answers are clear. First, conflict is of the essence of drama, and conflict often leads to violence. Secondly, the real world contains much violence in many forms, and when television seeks to reflect the world—in fact or fiction—it would be unrealistic and untrue to ignore its violent aspects."

The difficulties of the entire medium lie beneath that paragraph from the Independent Television Authority's new code on "Violence in Television Programmes," published yesterday. The work of a nine-man committee (who will continue their work on the subject), the code is a substantial rewrite of the 1964 version, taking account of the build-up of research on the subject since then.

Unfortunately, for all the efforts being made—and the I.T.A. alone had committed a quarter-million pounds over the past ten years—the research has been less than conclusive. Public concern, on the other hand, has grown—the code has to proceed in important places by negative injunctions.

"There is no evidence that the portrayal of violence for good or 'legitimate' ends is likely to be less harmful to the individual, or to society, than the portrayal of violence for evil ends."

"There is no evidence that 'sanitized' or 'conventional' violence, in which the conse-



Violence at Grosvenor Square in 1968, was seen by millions of TV viewers

## Violent nights by Peter Fiddick

quences are concealed, minimised or presented in a ritualistic way, is innocuous."

While this is cautious—in line with the clearer injunctions about "violence for its own sake," "horror in costume remains horror," "verbal violence and domestic friction can unsettle children"—it remains on the side of the status quo.

Although, for instance, adventure series like *"The Saint"* or *"The Persuaders"* would appear to come clearly under the headings of "san-

itized violence" or (if you take it that the "baddie" always loses), even "violence for 'legitimate' ends," there is clearly no feeling by the committee that the state of research justifies ending for ever the people's punch-ups.

The effect of the code in this area is therefore likely to be undramatic as far as the viewer is concerned. The I.T.A.'s hope is that with this fresh jog at his elbow, the programme-maker will drop some proportion of his violent ideas early on, saving the

mutually painful process of the Authority's men pruning the finished programme.

Inevitably, at this particular time, when the coverage of Ulster and allied subjects have raised feelings for and against television to new heat, the publication of the code has inescapably appeared an event in itself. At Westminster and elsewhere yesterday, some people were asking, "Does it apply to Ulster?" The answer is that it does, but that it does not imply a change of any sort.

## MISCELLANY

### Lever tip

WHAT IS a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world and lose his seat on the Shadow Cabinet? A wry thought for Harold Lever as he waits for the ballots and settles into a new niche in the Labour pantheon as first hon. treasurer of the Socialist International.

His main task will be the familiar one of raising money. The International draws an annual budget of £30,000 from its 34 paying members. The Austrian general secretary, Hans Janitschek, is hoping Lever can bring in another £10,000 or more for special projects (and perhaps even for a more fitting headquarters than the International's present offices over a greengrocer's shop in St John's Wood).

The International is giving its new treasurer star billing. For the conference in Vienna next month of Socialist Finance Ministers and Shadows (a sort of Left-of-Centre Group of 10), Lever has been allocated the royal suite in the Imperial Hotel. Previous occupants have included Hitler and Khrushchev.

● IN THE dawn of this age of ecologists, what is London's latest status symbol? Answer: a pair of breeding kestrels on your office roof. Neil Oliff, deputy chairman and conservation supremo of Shell Chemicals, told an environment conference yesterday that the capital's clean air is bringing back the kestrels, but selectively. The House of Lords has a pair, and the Savoy, County Hall, and Waterloo Station. But not, alas, their neighbour, the Shell Centre.

### Old stager

THE OLD FIRM of Wesker and Dexter is back on the road. The National Theatre is planning to premiere Arnold Wesker's latest play, *"The Old Ones"*, in the new year. It will be directed by John Dexter, who did most of the early Wesker plays at the Royal Court, starting with *"Chicken Soup with Barley"* in 1958.

After three critical failures in a row, Wesker knows he will be on trial this time. It doesn't worry him too much. "I spent three years on *'Friends'*, which I thought was going to be shattering. I spent 10 days on *'The Old Ones'*, and everyone says it's the best thing I've done since *'Chips'*." In the new play, he returns to his older areas of experiment (the Eat End), but armed, he says, with all that he has learnt since then. "Like all my plays, it's about survival. The two central characters are brothers—the eternal optimist and eternal pessimist—who have quarrelled from an early age.



WESKER: on trial

As the years have gone on, the way they have quarrelled has developed into a quoting match. They no longer talk to each other, they quote at each other (Voltaire, Ruskin, Carlyle, Ecclesiastes, Buber)."

It ends, Wesker says, with a recognisable defiance. Something that people have always misunderstood in his plays. "There's been a defiant survival and people come away thinking it's optimism. Defiant survival is more concerned with going on."

### High pique

A LEARNED STUDY of the last general election quotes a Labour regional official as saying that, if one of his sitting MPs were defeated, he would count it a Labour gain. Peter Jackson, the rebellious former member for High Peak, is pretty sure they were talking about him.

He was indeed defeated, and has had his differences with the apparatchiks ever since. None the less, he has just been re-elected unanimously by the constituency party. Jackson is heartened, too, by the decision last week of his old Liberal opponent, Dennis Wrigley, not to stand again. Wrigley polled 1,119 last time. The Tory majority was only 1,504. Another Labour gain?

### Rejection slip

CHRIS SEARLE, the messianic young teacher who was sacked from a Stepney school for printing his pupils' poems without the governors' permission, is having his first novel published today. And thereby hangs an oft-told tale. The book was offered to half a dozen London publishers, who rejected it like 90 per cent of all first novels. Searle took it then to Norman Hidden, recently chairman of the Poetry Society, who had taught him at Bournemouth Grammar School. Hidden read it, liked it, and decided to publish it through his

Workshop Press, which specialises in poetry.

After the fracas over "Stepney Words," some of the publishers remembered Searle's novel, *"Poliu"*, a counterpoint of Redbrick university and First World War trenches. Offers were produced. *"Poliu"* is published by Workshop Press at £1.80.

### Straight fight

THE WHITE HOUSE has turned down its thumbs to the effort of Thomas Forcade, director of the American underground press syndicate, to become an accredited correspondent.

Like the Serjeant at Arms's rejection of Auberon Waugh as Lobby correspondent for "Private Eye," no reason has been given. But Washington rumour has it that the Secret Service was worried that Forcade might stage a repeat performance of an incident in which he hurled a custard pie at a member of the Commission on Obscenity and Pornography during a public hearing.

Forcade, who edited Abbie Hoffman's *"Steal This Book"*—a path which led to dispute between the two revolutionaries and had to be adjudicated by a "people's court"—is reported to be disgusted by his rejection. Shucks.

### Star quality

CONSTERNATION at the Consumers' Association. As a slip to their "Good Food Guide Dinner Party Book," published today, the consumers thought how nice it would be for the first 5,000 lucky readers to get a free sample of star anise. Huge consignments of the exotic spice arrived from points east.

Then, horror of horrors, someone mentioned that surely star anise in large quantities was poisonous? Prented research ensued. Eventually, an answer came from Kew: the Japanese star anise, a garbled and unsightly growth, is indeed a danger. But the Chinese variety which looks like an elegant fossilised daisy, is kosher. Signs of relief from the Consumers' Association, which deeply had patronised the right side of the Bamboo Curtain. Buy your ideologically wholesome cookbook now.

● A BREATHE of peace? The TUC's November broadsheet boasts that the unions have won a 19 per cent "wage increase" from the Prime Minister. Skipper Ted has agreed that the maximum daily allowance for trade unionists on public service work should be increased from £4 a day to £4.75. It won't stop them boycotting Robert Carr's tribunals.

MALCOLM DEAN in New York, Wednesday, on a show that rehabilitates the Indian

## Totem pocus

FOR ALL his noble image, the American Indian of the past was as bad as if not worse than the present day American for his love of status symbols and his desire to win prestige by conspicuous consumption. This emerges from the first American Indian Art Exhibition for 30 years to be held in a New York gallery which opened this week to the acclaim of critics.

The man who assembled the exhibition, Norman Feder, a curator of American Indian art in the heart of Colorado, yields to no one in his documentation of the debilitating effects of the white man on Indian culture. But he is a scholar, not a romantic, and in his catalogue to the exhibition he sets out in detail how Indians were committed to "keeping up with the Joneses."

It occurred to nearly all tribes but particularly on the North-west coast where "the culture could be defined simply as an almost constant pursuit of prestige." The items of greatest prestige were houses and totem poles. "The value of the house or totem pole would be in direct relation to the cost involved in both its production and decoration."

### Token fee

It was not done to carve your own totem or to have one carved for you by a relative. But often the fee to the carver was only a small part of the cost. The lavish feast which had to be provided usually far exceeded the carver's cost.

Some craft work was cherished more for its prestige value than for its technical excellence. The Indian family on the plains who wanted their tepee decorated, did not seek out the decorator with the best painting skill but the Indian with the best war record.

In other tribes, glass beads, red coral, and spiny oyster shell decorations took the place of motor cars and houses in present day America.

Besides prestige, Mr Feder believes vanity prompted much Indian decoration. But there was a third factor which might appeal more to a Protestant ethic—pride in craftsmanship.

There was no art for art's sake with the Indians—with the possible exception of the North-west coast. The idea of hanging a painting on a wall is completely alien. It was all functional with either religious, ceremonial or practical use. And just as in the Gothic period in Europe, it was the items for religious use which produced the Indians' most splendid work.

The exhibition includes a wide selection of masks, including some false face masks from the Iroquois Indians, which, because the Iroquois believed them to be still alive, photographers were requested not to photograph. The few remaining Iroquois who use them for healing and preventing diseases, "feed" and care for the masks as though they were alive.

### Awareness

Why did New York have to wait 30 years between Indian art exhibitions (the last one was at the Museum of Modern Art)? The Whitney Museum of American Art, which is staging the present exhibition, admits that it is not unconnected with the political climate and the new awareness in the nation of the plight of the Indian.

Last year, after extensive lobbying by blacks, it staged a "Contemporary Black Artist in America" show. This year's exhibition was more spontaneous and easier to finance. Philip Morris, the cigarette company, was prepared to put up £20,000 in gratitude to the Indians—a small sum compared to the fortune that Philip Morris has made out of the practice the Indians invented.

Mr Feder believes the present show may be the last of its kind. Museums are becoming reluctant to loan Indian objects as they become more fragile with time. He was unable to obtain several items he wanted for the exhibition but still managed to gather 314 objects from 33 museums in North America and Europe. They represent 57 of the 300 American Indian tribes which once inhabited the United States.

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## RMC shocks Redland with £74M offer

By JOHN COYNE

Ready Mixed Concrete last night launched an unexpected £74 millions takeover bid for Redland, the brick and building products manufacturer where Lord Beeching has recently taken the helm.

The bid was sparked off by Redland's own £15 millions takeover bid for the waste disposal firm of Purle Brothers. RMC's current offer is conditional on this takeover not being implemented.

The bid caught the Redland management on the hop, and the only reaction from that direction last night was a bland statement that "there is no useful comment that we can make at this stage." But no board likes having a surprise bid like this slipped in by proxy.

RMC explains that it was not able to extend the normal courtesies of prior talks. Even the two management meetings of the speed with which the bid had to be thrown together.

RMC has been eyeing Redland ever since Redland took over Hall and Hamm River and thus made a tacit admission of the industrial logic of merging its own building products manufacturing with the more basic building materials of sand and gravel, but had to move fast when Redland proposed to take over and integrate the Purle waste business.

RMC now sees the commercial justification for a merger of the two groups on much the same lines as the Hall and Hamm affair. The two businesses of RMC and Redland are complementary and both expansion through better geographical coverage in fields where it already operates, and a broadening of the product base by taking it into the full range of building products manufacturing.

Redland is now considering the bid and will make a further statement as soon as possible, but it is difficult to see how it could reject the overtures on the grounds of any lack of commercial logic.

That leaves open the question of price should Redland's board decide to fight. RMC is offering a straight one-for-one share swap, so with RMC shares at 147½p the deal values Redland at 30½p above last night's closing level of 117p.

Redland could argue that the bid catches the group just as it is on the verge of its big recovery. Responding to Lord Beeching's tried and tested policy of raising prices and cutting overheads, Redland's sales by value rose 20 per cent to £36.6 millions in the first six months of its current trading year, while net attributable profit bounded 70 per cent to £2.37 millions.

But there was a warning that second-half progress would not continue at the same pace, and even so the past 12 months' reported earnings, shareholders would be bowed out on a price-earnings ratio of over 21 on RMC's bid terms.

Then, too, the recovery arguments apply with equal force to RMC itself, and since the deal is on all equity basis it is really in the nature of a merger and all shareholders would participate in joint growth.

Moreover, the Redland board has set a rod for its own back in the Purle deal, should it have any thoughts of remaining independent. There the Redland directors were quite happy to price their shares at only 110p in issuing them in the takeover of a completely different business.

Certainly in the context of the Companies Act a merger would make sense. Both companies have important overseas interests, particularly in Germany, and together they would form a widespread building supplies group, with a market capitalisation of £162 millions and gross assets of more than £186 millions.

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THE ALLIED BREWERY bid talks off, Trust Houses Forte plunges on towards the inevitable bust-up and possible disaster. Yesterday the smouldering dispute between Lord Crowther's faction and Sir Charles Forte's side once again broke out into the open.

The "Daily Telegraph" carried a story, clearly originating in the Forte camp, which stated flatly that it had been unofficially confirmed that Sir Charles intended to make "a clean sweep of the board," that the Trust Houses directors would be asked to resign rather than face Sir Charles's opposition to their re-election. And that Lord Thorneycroft (a Forte nominee to the board) would become independent chairman when Lord Crowther retires next May.

Lord Thorneycroft quickly issued a statement confirming he had discussed this possibility with Sir Charles but stating he had said his view was that a decision on the matter could only be made nearer the time, and in the light of any contribution he felt he could make to the company's affairs. Nevertheless the significance of the

story is that it suggests a new militancy on the part of Sir Charles. What has probably not been sufficiently appreciated is that Sir Charles can now claim and probably command a majority of the THF board: for Lord Robens, who was appointed on October 28, was, like Lord Thorneycroft, a Forte nominee.

Although the Trust Houses side were not opposed to Lord Robens, they were out-maneuvred, just as they were over Michael Pickard's dismissal as managing director. There had been discussions about adding a number of directors to the board, with

nomination from both sides, and an attempt to find a real independent. But it was only just before the board meeting that the Trust Houses men discovered that the Forte side were going ahead with the nomination of Lord Robens. Once again they were caught on one short: their unfortunate Australian member was off on his travels, and they could do nothing but abstain on the Lord Robens nomination.

While the Forte case was finding expression in the "Daily Telegraph," the "Financial Times" yesterday had a story which equally clearly emanated from a Trust Houses source. This reiterated

the fact that the Trust Houses side are looking at ways in which the merger could be undone, a solution vehemently opposed by Sir Charles. Advice on this was first sought back in the summer: some say it can be done, some that it cannot, at least not with complete fairness to both sides.

Michael Pickard himself has been most involved in these studies, especially since the remarks of the judge in Robert Maxwell's action against the Department of Trade and Industry helped to rekindle Pickard's image in the City: if the two components were split up, he

might very well be re-installed in his job as managing director of Trust Houses, although whatever happens it would be unlikely for him to be reappointed to that job in the merged group.

Nevertheless no demerger could go through without the approval of Sir Charles Forte and his supporters, and they state firmly that it is impossible. Even the power of the Trust Council, which has still to elect a chairman to replace Lord Pickard, is effectively reduced by Sir Charles's majority. So the council can really only act to break a board deadlock.

So Sir Charles could theoretically do precisely what the "Daily Telegraph" story reported—and there is no doubt he would like to. But not only would that do severe damage to the company, but Sir Charles knows that the Trust Houses side could still fight back in perhaps more drastic ways.

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## Sir Charles starts war of nerves

By Charles Raw

story is that it suggests a new militancy on the part of Sir Charles. What has probably not been sufficiently appreciated is that Sir Charles can now claim and probably command a majority of the THF board: for Lord Robens, who was appointed on October 28, was, like Lord Thorneycroft, a Forte nominee.

Although the Trust Houses side were not opposed to Lord Robens, they were out-maneuvred, just as they were over Michael Pickard's dismissal as managing director. There had been discussions about adding a number of directors to the board, with

nomination from both sides, and an attempt to find a real independent. But it was only just before the board meeting that the Trust Houses men discovered that the Forte side were going ahead with the nomination of Lord Robens. Once again they were caught on one short: their unfortunate Australian member was off on his travels, and they could do nothing but abstain on the Lord Robens nomination.

While the Forte case was finding expression in the "Daily Telegraph," the "Financial Times" yesterday had a story which equally clearly emanated from a Trust Houses source. This reiterated

the fact that the Trust Houses side are looking at ways in which the merger could be undone, a solution vehemently opposed by Sir Charles. Advice on this was first sought back in the summer: some say it can be done, some that it cannot, at least not with complete fairness to both sides.

Michael Pickard himself has been most involved in these studies, especially since the remarks of the judge in Robert Maxwell's action against the Department of Trade and Industry helped to rekindle Pickard's image in the City: if the two components were split up, he

might very well be re-installed in his job as managing director of Trust Houses, although whatever happens it would be unlikely for him to be reappointed to that job in the merged group.

Nevertheless no demerger could go through without the approval of Sir Charles Forte and his supporters, and they state firmly that it is impossible. Even the power of the Trust Council, which has still to elect a chairman to replace Lord Pickard, is effectively reduced by Sir Charles's majority. So the council can really only act to break a board deadlock.

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## State owned shipping line sold

By VICTOR KEEGAN, Industrial Correspondent

The National Freight Corporation, the publicly-owned transport group, yesterday announced that it was selling its shipping subsidiary, Atlantic Steam Navigation, to a private enterprise group, for almost £50 million.

The group, now commercial vehicle roll on/roll off and container services between Great Britain and both the Continent and Ireland.

This is by no means classical case of "hiving-off" since the National Freight Corporation has long wanted to diversify itself of its shipping subsidiaries to allow itself more freedom of choice. The only difference which a Conservative Government made was that it is now selling it to a private enterprise instead of British Rail—a proposal which the present Government looks on with disfavour.

The NFC had always wanted to sell off Atlantic Steam which is profitable in a package with other shipping subsidiaries. Associated, Hummer, Limit, which incurred a loss of £324,000 last year.

The purchase price of £50,000,000 for Atlantic Steam values the company at 7.4 times last year's profit of £750,000 and 87 times this year's expected profit (after a nil tax charge of between £125,000 and £150,000).

This year's profit has been affected by the political trouble in Northern Ireland, reduced charter income, and the cost of increasing capacity on the Belfast-Europort route, which is expected to produce enhanced profit in 1972.

The purchase price is being satisfied by the issue of 3.7 million ordinary 5p shares of European Ferries which are being placed privately at a price of 127½p each, compared with last night's closing price of 160p.

## Where is the poker game...

Anthony Harris reports on the confusing state of play in the international monetary negotiations and asks

"REALLY I THINK the diplomatic service is rather better at this sort of thing than we are." This despairing comment from a top British official is an apt enough comment on the flurry of announcements and counter-announcements which have left the time and place of the next meeting of the Group of Ten still in doubt after 49 knock-about hours.

To give you the flavour, here is a rumour-by-rumour account of the past few days important rumouring only.

Last week, you may remember, the meeting scheduled for Rome on November 23 was postponed at the request of the Americans—which, as you will see, is the only hard fact we have.

In Europe, and especially in Brussels, this was interpreted as a hopeful sign. The Americans were clearly cooking up a new plan—perhaps a move on a gold price, which would require Congressional approval.

It was generally expected that Mr John Connally, the US Treasury Secretary, would announce some such move in his speech to the Economics Club in New York the night before last.

In the event, Mr Connally made a tough speech which did not mention gold: but the fact that he didn't mention it has proved quite enough to keep the optimists on this side of the water happy.

Meanwhile, in the US, the official briefing was that Mr Connally had put off the meeting—because he thought the Europeans needed more time to resolve their differences. And according to French reports, that is just what they were doing at Versailles. More optimism.

Meanwhile, again Professor Schiller came to London to talk to Mr Anthony Barber, and M. Schumann, the French Foreign Minister, consulted Sir Alec Douglas-Home. Professor Schiller told German correspondents that although there were still differences between Britain and Germany, Britain was a member of the Group of Ten, and M. Schumann claimed that the French were closer to the French position.

On to this week: when would the postponed meeting take place? Rumour 1: The Americans would discuss a package of parity changes and burden sharing, so the meeting would be held in Brussels after December 7, when the NATO Powers meet.

Rumour 2: The Italians announced that the meeting would after all be in Rome on November 30. The Americans, though, then said the Bank of England, in the currency market would suggest, and partly concerned to see that a good deal of the correction of the US deficit is done through trade and burden sharing (where US interests are

much the same as ours) rather than through parities. Pesce, the Americans are suffering less from the present uncertainty than anyone else, as they eagerly tell everyone. It is on the price of gold, he says, that the meeting would be held.

Finally, what about the dollar down-to offer a term? There has been much talk of an average 10 per cent revaluation against the dollar, expects, it could be 7½ or 8 per cent instead of 5½, and by this means he would get a bigger average adjustment. This would put the French, and to some extent ourselves, on the spot, but make life easier for the Germans and the Japanese.

For his final act is just this: that no one, not even in the Six, has been able yet to agree what on earth to do if we fail to reach agreement. A tough dollar value: everyone looks more that trade negotiations take a

long time. There is no sign yet of any such concessions. And Mr Connally may have a ace up his sleeve. I believe it is possible that after all his public reluctance to move, at all suddenly prove willing after getting others, especially the French, to agree not to follow the dollar down—to offer a term? There has been much talk of an average 10 per cent revaluation against the dollar, expects, it could be 7½ or 8 per cent instead of 5½, and by this means he would get a bigger average adjustment. This would put the French, and to some extent ourselves, on the spot, but make life easier for the Germans and the Japanese.

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## 10,000 to lose smelter jobs

By VICTOR KEEGAN, Industrial Correspondent

British Aluminium announced yesterday that 10 per cent of the group's 10,000 work force would be declared redundant over the next eight months. The company blamed the decision on the world recession in the industry, but the redundancies are bound to assume a much wider significance in the light of ministerial statements that the country is on the verge of an economic boom.

British Aluminium, which was responsible for building one of the three smelters commissioned during the Labour administration, is one of the country's biggest producers of aluminium and claims a third of the market.

Yesterday's redundancies are in addition to the loss of 400 jobs over the next three years at the company's chemical works at Newport, Monmouthshire, announced earlier in the year.

### Heaviest blow

The latest batch of redundancies will also fall heaviest on South Wales. Over 500 jobs will be lost at the group's Resolven rolling mill in Glamorgan where unemployment is already well over 4 per cent. The group's rolling mills at Falkirk will be affected and 50 jobs will be lost at the research and development centre at Gorse Cross, near London. British Aluminium is a subsidiary of Tube Investments, the giant engineering concern, but 48 per cent of its shares are owned by the American group Reynolds Metal.

A spokesman for BA said yesterday that the action had been made necessary by the depressed state of demand, prices, and profits, together with an acceleration of rationalisation plans which have been going on for some time. The redundancies are the latest in a cycle which have already produced sackings by the other major producers Alcan and Rio Tinto Zinc.

They coincide with the slow commissioning of the three aluminium smelters which were built during the high tide of interventionism by the last Labour Government. All three, BA, Alcan, and RTZ, have admitted that they would never have been built but for the 40 per cent investment grants and other help available under the last Government, but now stopped.

### Slow run-in

The American group Alcoa, the world's biggest producer, which was not involved in the UK smelters, said recently that they should never have been built since they simply added surplus capacity to the depressed world situation.

At present the two completed smelters—RTZ at Anglesey and BA in Scotland—are being run-in deliberately slowly so as not to flood the market. Alcoa, who traditionally a glamour industry, growing at twice the rate of increase of national income, is now virtually stagnant. Companies claim that they can see no permanent sign of a substantial recovery in the aluminium industry. Of course, the whole situation could change dramatically if the predicted economic boom takes place, but until then the world's major industries are wary of restricting their output in order to give some stability to prices and prevent a cut-price war which would benefit no one—except, of course, the consumer.

## 'Property bonds beat unit trusts'

Abbey Life managing director Mr James Anderson claimed yesterday that property bonds and unit trusts had overtaken the unit trust industry in gross sales per month.

Presenting the annual report of the Abbey Property Bond Fund, Mr Anderson said that he estimates the gross sales of property bonds at around £12 million today compared with only £4 million one year ago.

He pointed out that in terms of net sales the property bond industry overtook the unit trust industry some months ago.

He said that no doubt the growth was due in part to increased public awareness of the availability of single premium contracts, "but in our view it is primarily attributable to the now established status of the property bond medium."

The fourth annual report of the fund shows that total Abbey Property Bond Fund assets reached £65.5 million on October 5, 1971, and have since increased to approximately £73 million, a gain of £8.5 million in six weeks. At the end of its financial year the fund was £2 per cent liquid.

Mr Anderson confirmed yesterday that he will, in the coming year, be spending less time in the United Kingdom. Commenting on the investment policy of the fund Mr Anderson said that recent money has been placed in the industrial property sector.



## \$3M loan for Nabarlek group

From MICHAEL BLENDALL: Sydney, November 17

Kathleen Investments (Australia) which owns 50 per cent of the Nabarlek haunts deposit through Queensland Mines, has arranged a \$3 million loan through the Australian Industry Development Corporation. A condition of the loan is that AIDC be granted a five-year option over one million shares (10.15 per cent) of Kathleen's issued capital.

Shareholders at an extraordinary meeting on December 2 will be asked to ratify the option agreement. The funds are required to enable the company to continue its participation in the Ilmenite beneficiation project and to finance development work by Kathleen's 50 per cent owned associate, Queensland Mines.

Kathleen's chairman, Mr J. S. Miller, declined to give a breakdown of how the funds would be split up between Nabarlek and the Ilmenite project.

Option terms are: for any shares taken up within 18 months, AIDC will pay the lesser of a premium of \$2.50 a 50 cent share; or a price based on the fair market value of the shares as determined by prices ruling on the Sydney Stock Exchange during the three months immediately preceding exercise of the option and weighted according to daily turnover less a percentage reflecting the discount generally offered to off-market purchasers of large parcels (called the alternative exercise price). For any shares taken up after 18 months, AIDC will pay the alternative exercise price.

The timing of yesterday's announcement barely seems proportionate from AIDC's point of view.

Why should \$3 millions be lent to Kathleen Investments after the astonishing Nabarlek downgrading and in the midst of a power struggle for control of Kathleen's board?

It would seem more prudent to wait until after the extraordinary meeting on December 15, requisitioned by the former chairman, Mr E. R. Hudson, when at least the power struggle will be resolved.

The date on which AIDC exercises its options must surely rest to a large degree on Mr Hudson's nominations to replace the existing Kathleen board. Ten nominees have still to be revealed.

The chairman of AIDC, Sir Alan Westerman, denied tonight that the company had yet considered the exercise of its option.

However, if Mr Hudson's nominations proved very distasteful to AIDC, the company would surely exercise its options and either support the existing board or put forward a nomination or nominations of its own.

Kathleen Investments originally made overtures to AIDC when Mr Hudson was at the helm, and the fact that the AIDC loan has come to fruition under Mr Miller's leadership must be seen as a vote of confidence in the existing board.

Events tend to suggest that when all the recent transfers to foreign companies are registered, foreign share holdings in both Kathleen Investments and Queensland Mines could exceed the limits established by the Nabarlek Ordinance of October, 1970.

But it would appear improbable that a mere one million Kathleen shares would be sufficient to dilute overseas holdings to the required 15 per cent level.

Measures to protect the environment will impose new barriers to trade, increase the costs of goods, and have a major impact on global transportation, the United Nations Under-Secretary-General, Mr Maurice F. Strong, said yesterday.

Mr Strong, Secretary-General of the 1972 UN Conference on the Human Environment, said it was too early to accurately predict where the principal advantages and disadvantages of environment - protecting actions would fall.

Two likely results are that industry would increasingly be decentralised in mineral processing and electric power production would take place at or near the source of raw materials, Mr Strong told the National Foreign Trade Council Convention in New York. Countries with low industrialisation levels and good natural resources stood to gain from efforts to protect the environment.

Environmental protection was a world-wide problem, and a global approach was needed, he said. The UN was the organisation to take such an approach.

Mr Strong said the Human Environment Conference, to be held in Stockholm, is a start on meeting environmental problems with a global approach. International action was needed, he said, because 70 per cent of the earth lay outside the jurisdiction of any nation, including the oceans and the atmosphere.

—AP-Dow Jones.

As expected, Mr William T. Seawell has been elected president, chief operating officer and a director of Pan American World Airways. Mr Najeeb E. Halaby remains as chairman and chief executive officer.

Mr Seawell, who will join Pan American on December 1, has resigned as president of Rolls-Royce Aero Engines Inc., and chairman of Rolls-Royce Canada, both units of Rolls-Royce (1971).

## Robe R fails to disclose anything

Sydney, November 17

The annual meeting of Robe River in Sydney today afforded a classic example of Australian shareholders' reticence in the face of an absence of facts germane to their company's future.

The chairman, Mr B. R. Macklin, failed in his prepared address either to discuss the additional ore reserves (which the company needs to provide for the maximum use over the longest possible period of mining facilities being constructed) or to be anything but vague on the timing of additional sales contracts.

Both these points are vital to the successful sale of the 17.5 million Robe River shares still held by the liquidator of Mineral Securities Australia, Mr J. H. Jamison.

In addition, not one of the 40-odd shareholders present bothered to inquire who purchased the line of four million shares which the liquidator announced he had sold for \$41.15 a share in September. The buyer of this parcel remains unknown some two months later—and for no obvious reason.

Robe River shares last sold for 67c in the share market.

## The art of picking a banker.

When the time comes to choose a merchant bank you may be tempted into believing that any one of several big names could meet your needs equally well.

But there are cleverer ways of choosing one than simply using a pin.

The range of services provided by merchant banks may certainly be basically similar. The individual application of these services to your own business may be very different.

Investment advisory services, financial planning, export and international finance, mergers and amalgamations—these are just the names of the game. How we play it is something you only really find

out when you talk to us. Then you can satisfy yourself on the first requirements of choosing any service.

The kind of people you'll be dealing with.

Kleinwort Benson have been merchant bankers to all types of business for over a century and a half. Assisting financial planning. Helping new ventures to thrive. Pin-pointing new opportunities and markets. And covering the whole field of exports and international finance.

We do not, of course, know precisely why all our clients chose us in the first place.

But we pride ourselves in believing that very few of them drew our name out of a hat.

Write for a copy of our booklet 'Financial productivity, or the art of using a merchant bank'.

Kleinwort Benson

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## Abbey Property Bond Fund Highlights from the 4th Annual Report

	1971	1970
Total Fund Assets	£65,523,688	£36,946,781
Distributable Income	£1,919,610	£1,277,428
Increase in value of Properties	£4,167,287	£539,472
Gains on Government Stocks	£448,867	£—
Total Unit Appreciation	12.5%	5.6%

### Extract from the Directors' Report to Bondholders for the year ended October 5th 1971.

During the last twelve months, property bonds have continued to be a vigorous competitor for the investment of public savings. The Abbey Property Bond Fund has come to be regarded as a specially attractive fund, and the inflow of premiums, both annual and single, has increased as public awareness has become more widespread. Coupled with our record inflow of new premiums, has been an eminently satisfactory investment performance, with an overall appreciation in the value of units of 12.5%, which is higher than in any previous year. The constituent parts of this aggregate appreciation were the capital growth of the unit value of approximately 9.5%, and income reinvested of approximately 3% after deduction of expenses for managing, maintaining and valuing the properties, the Company's annual charge and tax at the special Life Assurance Company reduced rate of 37.5%.

The Report which we have received from the Fund Managers shows what has taken place in the property market during the period under review. The Managers have continued to have regard to the paramount investment principle of security and the properties acquired during the year, many of which were individually substantial, reflect this policy. Some new development schemes have been entered into and some existing ones have come to fruition. Although in the past the policy on development schemes has only been to enter into these schemes in association with an approved developer where adequate guarantees are provided, the Directors of the Company have under consideration the possibility that a limited part of the funds allocated to development schemes should be taken up by direct development by the Fund Managers for the benefit of Bondholders.

In accordance with our stated policy of maintaining adequate liquid resources to ensure that in normal circumstances Bond-

holders can cash-in their bonds without delay, we have maintained an adequate margin of liquidity throughout the period. As the year progressed it became clear to the Investment Division of the Company that the probability of a decrease in short-term interest rates was high. As our previous practice on the investment of the liquidity of the Fund from time to time was essentially short-term (that is, Bank Deposits or Local Authority Loans) it was decided that Bondholders should be protected against the effects of a down-turn of short-term interest rates by the investment of a significant part of the liquidity in short-dated British Government securities. The prime objective of this investment operation was to preserve the income yield at a satisfactory level, having regard to the essential requirement for immediate realisation, and this objective was achieved. In addition, however, the subsequent downturn in short-term interest rates resulted in the short-dated British Government securities so purchased moving on to a lower yield basis thus increasing in value for the benefit of Bondholders.

### Recent Developments

On October 1, several important improvements were made in the Abbey Property Bond Fund contracts. The deduction for capital gains tax made by the Company upon encashment was reduced and this improvement was made retrospective to most existing policies. The life assurance cover provided by the new contracts was increased. Investment guarantees were included for the first time. The new contracts include an investment flexibility which allows policyholders to convert units of the Property Bond Fund into units of either the Equity Bond Fund or the Selective Bond Fund. The withdrawal scheme is now available on as frequent a basis as monthly, subject to minimum requirements. These improvements have proved to be popular. Since October 5, the date of the Annual Report, the Abbey Property Bond Fund increased from £65.5 million to more than £73 million, a gain of £8.5 million in only six weeks.

It has always been the long-term goal of Abbey Life that the Abbey Property Bond Fund be managed by an organisation completely free of any other property investment interests. At more than £70 million, clearly the Fund is large enough to support its own management. The investment competence of Abbey Life has developed steadily over the years and we believe that it has evolved to a sufficiently professional and experienced level to allow this step to be taken now. We have made these views known to Hambros Bank and they have kindly agreed to assist us in every way to ensure that the transition will be orderly and will in no way hinder the continued progress of the Fund. We both believe that this decision is in the long-term interests of the policyholders.

By mutual agreement between the Company and Hambros Bank, the Property Division of the Bank will continue its full responsibility as Manager of the Fund until 4th January 1972 and thereafter will continue administrative responsibilities for an appropriate transitional period. After 4th January 1972 management of the Fund will be assumed by Abbey Life Property Investments Limited, a wholly owned subsidiary of Abbey Life established for this exclusive purpose. The Board of this company will initially be composed of members of the Investment Committee of Abbey Life, which has always directed the investment policy of the Fund. Mr. C. J. Baker has been named as Chairman of the management company and the other Directors are Mr. J. C. H. Anderson, Mr. N. H. Carpenter, Mr. T. J. R. Gordon and Mr. W. Samengo-Turner. The Fund will not bear any additional expense by reason of these new arrangements and, after the transitional period, we expect that the expenses borne by policyholders will in fact be reduced.

Richard Ellis & Son, Chartered Surveyors, will continue as Independent Valuers and Whinney Murray Ernst & Ernst will continue as Auditors for the Abbey Property Bond Fund.



ABBEY LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED, ABBEY LIFE HOUSE, 1-3 ST. PAUL'S CHURCHYARD, LONDON EC4M 8JR



# FINANCE FOR INDUSTRY

## Opportunities to invest in Europe

by NICHOLAS McANDREW

BRITISH individuals and institutions have traditionally been among the most internationally minded investors. The linguistic and historical ties with the United States, South Africa, Australia, and Canada, and Britain's geographical position in Western Europe have combined to give London an unrivalled position as a centre for international portfolio management.

Interest in overseas shares has also been stimulated by the relatively slow economic growth shown by the United Kingdom in the post-war period. Until recently investment has been predominantly in the United States and to a lesser extent in other English speaking countries. Over the last four years this interest has widened and substantial purchases have been made of Japanese shares, stimulated by the remarkable growth of the Japanese economy. British investors have been deterred from purchasing Continental European shares by a number of factors, of which the most important have been the language barrier, unfamiliarity with Continental finance practices, the limited amount of information available about the companies, doubts about the methods of accounting, and the poor marketability of the shares of all but a few companies. The importance of these deterrents is, however, diminishing rapidly. The law relating to the reporting of company accounts has been greatly improved in both France and Germany, and Dutch standards have long been high. Of the EEC countries only Italy still allows company reports which fall markedly short of Anglo-Saxon requirements. At the same time the research information available in English has steadily improved. A number of London stockbrokers have opened offices in the main financial centres or have formed European research departments. The Conti-

mental banks, who have opened branches in London, have also contributed to this flow of knowledge.

The shares of most companies in the Common Market are very cheap compared with those of English companies if judged on the fundamental criteria of dividend yields and price earnings ratio. The existence of the two Anglo-Dutch international, Royal Dutch/Shell and Unilever, provides the outstanding method whereby this can be demonstrated. In the case of Unilever, a tax exempt fund which could buy the shares of Unilever NV directly without having to buy investment currency would receive an annual income approximately 40 per cent higher than would be received by investing the same amount of money in Unilever Limited.

The difference in the comparative returns to a private individual, who can offset the withholding tax against his personal tax liability, would be even greater. The prospective price/earnings ratio of Unilever Limited is 11.7 while on Unilever NV it is only 7.3 for a direct investor and 9.2 for an investor using premium currency. For Shell the prospective price/earnings ratio is 10.0 whereas for Royal Dutch it is 7.5 for the direct investor and 8.8 for

the premium currency investor. While these two companies offer the most direct comparison between United Kingdom and Common Market valuations, similar inequalities exist if the prospective price/earnings multiples of leading companies in the same industry are compared.

United Kingdom Company	Prospective P/E Ratio	Common Market Prospective Company P/E Ratio	
British Petroleum	12.2	Compagnie Francaise des Petroles	6.8
GEC	17	Siemens	9.1
Eagle Star	23	Nationale Nederlanden	7.7
British Leyland	18.4	Peugeot	4.5
Barclays Bank	12	Algemeene Bank	6.3
National Westminster bank	11.4	Nederlandsche Amsterdam-Rotterdam Bank	5.8
House of Fraser	18.8	Karstadt	11.3

While it cannot be argued that the above companies are exactly similar in their operations, historical performance or likely future trading prospects, the comparisons are probably sufficiently close to support the contention that a narrowing of the gap is likely.

While this clear disparity exists between the valuation of shares in EEC countries and the United Kingdom, there has in the past been little incentive for English investors to seek to capitalise on

this because there has been no assurance that the anomaly would narrow or disappear. This assurance should be provided by Britain's entry into the Common Market. The British Government has made it clear that capital movements between the UK and EEC countries will be steadily freed from

currency restrictions and has proposed that United Kingdom portfolio investors should be free to purchase shares in the EEC countries without any exchange control restrictions within a five year period after entry. Until recently the only method open to United Kingdom investors wishing to purchase continental shares was by the use of investment currency. This greatly reduced the attractions of such investments. The comparisons between Royal Dutch and

Shell Transport and Trading, Unilever Limited and Unilever N.V. suggest that an upward valuation of 50 per cent is likely in many continental shares compared with their English equivalents. However, at the same time an English investor is likely to find that investment currency is no longer required for the purchase of continental shares and he may effectively lose the premium on purchases already made; this will eliminate a substantial part of the possible profit.

Fortunately the Bank of England has, over the past few years, relaxed the exchange control restrictions to the extent of allowing United Kingdom investors to purchase foreign securities with funds borrowed abroad. Most investors wishing to avoid the gearing element inherent in straight borrowing have arranged such facilities on a "back-to-back" basis. In essence this means the loan of sterling against a borrowing of an equivalent amount of another currency which can be used for portfolio investment. Such back-to-back loans have been arranged both with the banks and with internationally based industrial companies who may have an excess of, say, Swiss francs or dollars, but a shortage of sterling which they require for capital investment in this country.

Until December of last year such loans had to be for a minimum of five years, but more recently the Bank of England has allowed much greater flexibility. By purchasing securities through the foreign borrowing method an investor has a far better chance of benefiting to the full from the anomalies in valuations as between United Kingdom and continental stocks than by a purchase with investment currency which is likely to make a very substantial reduction in the eventual profit.

MR McANDREW is investment director of S. G. Warburg.



drawings by NED OWENS

## Helping the little man to get bigger

by BRIAN WHITE

THE CURRENT shake-out in industry has underlined the need in many areas of the country for new sources of employment. The big firms, many still in the throes of rationalisation, cannot be guaranteed to provide it. A healthy stratum of young, growing companies could help to fill the gap.

The potential is undoubtedly there. When Glenrothes Development Corporation announced a scheme recently to bring new companies to the area by offering nursery factory facilities and the possibility of financial help, it was inundated with applications. There are, it is clear, a large number of small firms keen to expand, given help and money.

**Vulnerable**

Finance is the root of their problem. Small firms are both suspect and vulnerable. Many do not have the experience or the ability to institute proper financial controls. The management is often stretched on production and marketing problems. Yet, given the nature of the world in which they operate the financial difficulties which confront them are often more acute than their larger counterparts.

The most common complaint is the way in which they are forced to finance the activities of customers who have far greater resources. The small firm is in no position to argue when a large customer allows his bill to gather dust for a few months. On the other hand, he finds that all too often his own supplies are cut off without prompt payment.

The financial plight of small companies has been best documented in a research report to the Bolton Committee "Financial Facilities for Small Firms" which was conducted by the Economist Advisory Unit (HMSO, £2.15). Its conclusion—that there is no simple major defect in financial facilities—may appear a little dispiriting.

Where there was a problem, however, was in knowledge about where the available facilities were to be found.

An equally important factor is the ability of the small firm to present a reasonable case to the financial institutions. The report recommended the education of managers in techniques for evaluating development proposals and keeping up-to-date financial records and making cash flow projections. Clearly, many of the firms that one hears from smaller companies about their rough treatment at the hands of the banks stem from their own inability to present a reasoned and detailed case. Not only would this provide a basis on which a loan can be considered, but it is also an important illustration that management ability on which to function in the future.

But the general feeling that the world of money is one in which only large companies are welcome does have some basis in fact. Inevitably, transaction costs are much higher.

On the other hand, there is a case, as the Economist Advisory Group found, for saying that there is a need for the banks to be more flexible about interest rates. Borrowers who are turned down at present because the risk is too great could be given a loan at a higher rate of interest.

For all the problems experienced by small firms in their search for finance the number of institutions which could offer help is large. The most obvious, of course, are the clearing banks who are moving increasingly into the field of long-term financial facilities, through subsidiary companies. In some cases the minimum loan may be above the smaller firm's requirements. Policies, however, differ from one bank to another and the provincial banks in particular are able to cater for the needs of the very small firm. Merchant banks have been the traditional providers of longer

term finance although here again the minimum limit rules out the very small companies.

The type of small firm whose financial problems undoubtedly attracts most sympathy is the technological-based firm. Critics of the financial institutions have pointed to the mushrooming of new scientific companies in the United States as evidence of what could be done here given a more adventurous approach by the banking world.

It is certainly true that many young companies with the prospect of growth often face early financial problems. And by their very nature these companies are begun by people whose expertise may not extend to financial management. The National Research Development Corporation and the Technical Development Capital, together with a number of private institutions, provide advice and finance, though usually in exchange for an equity stake in the company. Among the merchant banks, there is growing interest in this field.

**Other ways**

There are other ways of raising capital, which do not immediately occur to the hard-pressed managers of small firms. Equipment leasing has been a growth field and has released valuable resources. Business properties can be mortgaged.

The money is usually there if the companies have the knowledge of where to look. The range of possibilities between tapping a rich aunt or approaching a mighty institution like the Industrial and Commercial Finance Corporation is vast. The Bolton Committee suggested the formation of local advice bureaux aimed at the small firm. This would certainly help but for their part the clearing banks should ensure that their branch managers are fully briefed in order to overcome the information gap.



Michael Hewland: "If the Midland hadn't lent us the money for vital machinery, we'd really have been in trouble."

Mr. Hewland is Founder and Managing Director of Hewland Engineering Company Limited in Boyne Valley Road, Meidenhead.

Formed in 1957 as a general engineering company, they now produce specialised transmission units for almost every major racing car in the world. And at present they're holders of the coveted Ferodo Trophy for services to Motor Racing.

A key factor in their success, especially over the last few years, has been the Midland Bank.

"Our relationship with the Bank has been very good" says Mr. Hewland. "The present manager, Mr. Reading, seems to understand as much about this company as I do, which gives us enormous confidence." In 1969, £30,000 was needed urgently for specialised machinery.

As Mr. Hewland says, "It really was make or break. Without those machines, we couldn't produce our transmissions, and that would have been that. Fortunately, the Midland had no hesitation in giving us a loan."

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## A SPECIAL REPORT

# Leasing in Europe

by D. R. CASTLEY

THERE ARE, at the present time, very few companies engaged in leasing in a European-wide context. Present practice is for each country to have its own national system of banking and financing, including leasing, and, to a large extent, to restrict its activities to its own country and not venture too far outside its own borders. This restriction is in part voluntary, as it is obviously much easier for a national leasing company to operate in its own country, but it is also in part due to the added difficulties encountered in leasing in a foreign country.

Such multinational leasing companies do find many difficulties in starting operations in new countries. There are always different laws and customs, exchange control restrictions, taxation problems, the question of double taxation treaties and other matters that must be looked into and decided before being able to transact business in a new country.

There are, on the other hand, advantages, that the multinational company has over the national company. It is not usually bound in the same way and to the same extent with national exchange control and credit restrictions and is therefore, able, in periods of tight credit in any particular country, still to transact business in that country by the use of cross-border financing, whereas national companies are restricted by the credit or other controls in force. While this can and does involve exposure to risks of currency fluctuations, this can be alleviated by hedging.

Over the past few years we have seen the tremendous growth of national leasing companies in most European countries, and the start of the multinational leasing company, with the entry of a small number of the American companies and their subsidiaries into Europe, who are now being emulated to a small degree by European leasing companies.

This transition is being wrought to a large extent, by the lowering of artificial barriers and by the gradual deepening cooperation and reforms within the EEC, to the advantage of each of their members. It is now easier for a company in an EEC member country to engage in leasing in other EEC member countries and the goal to which the EEC is working—the elimination of all artificial barriers, a common legal system, common taxation policies, an EEC monetary unit—will continue to make leasing in Europe much easier.

British leasing companies have been rather slow or reluctant to compete for leasing business in the Euro-

pean market and have fallen some way behind those forward-looking American and European companies now active on the Continent. This is all the more surprising considering the tight credit conditions which have prevailed in the United Kingdom for some considerable time now and which have been relaxed only recently. With these tight credit conditions, growth at home has been restricted, and it is the forward-looking companies who have realised that future growth plans must include provision for expansion outside their own borders so that new growth is not stunted by temporary conditions in any one particular country.

With the advent of Britain's entry into the EEC, British leasing companies should be looking upon Europe as one vast home market, in exactly the same way as British manufacturers are doing, and if they have not already done so, should be making plans, for the near future, for establishing a base in Europe.

MR CASTLEY is managing director of Systems Capital.

## Factoring in Europe

by H. R. V. WESSEL

WITH THE United Kingdom seemingly poised to join the common market an increasing number of British companies can be expected to consider the advantages of factoring when selling abroad. The combination of a factor and an effective sales agent flows an exporter to consider in a foreign market on equal terms with a local competitor, without having either branch or subsidiary in the market concerned.

The agent discovers possible outlets and immediately refers them to the local factoring company for credit approval. When the British exporter receives the order from his agent, he knows at the credit risk of the debtor will be accepted by the factoring company. He will be able to invoice in the currency of the buyer and for terms of payment appropriate for the market. As soon as the goods are shipped the invoice is sent to the factor in the United Kingdom, who will forward it to the factoring company in the country of the buyer.

The exporter obtains his cash immediately and at the same time is relieved of any worry over the possibility of bad debts. In the event of a dispute, the agent, the buyer and the local factor will be able to get together and deal with the matter in their own language. And this, as any experienced exporter knows, can save a lot of time, money and misunderstanding.

Precise figures on the relative importance of factoring in the various European countries are difficult to obtain and there are none at all for Holland and Switzerland. The only way to arrive at a meaningful comparison is to measure factoring turnover in relation to the gross national product of the country concerned. Research undertaken on this basis puts Sweden, Norway, and Finland at the top of the list followed by Belgium.

The Scandinavian countries, noticeably, have fared best while generally in Latin countries factoring has developed more slowly. This trend is largely accounted for by the different legal structures and commercial habits in particular countries. It is because of these variations that factoring can be of real assistance to the British exporter who seeks new markets. Factoring, however, is not suitable for any type of business and the factor will choose his prospective export client carefully. The kind of company likely to derive the most benefit from factoring will, in general, be the regular exporter of finished or semi-finished products selling to a reasonable number of outlets.

In Britain there are about a dozen factoring companies and most of them are geared to assist the British exporter. Three distinct systems, however, are being developed. Some companies are members of Factors Chain International, an international grouping of independent companies collaborating in import and export factoring. Two other companies are part of a network of factoring companies in several countries linked through a common United States shareholder, while yet another is developing its own network of branches in foreign countries.

Mr Wessel is managing director of Midland City Bank Factors.

## Confidential invoice factoring

by H. V. L. OSBOURN

CONFIDENTIAL invoice factoring companies are devoted to making a trading company's working capital work harder. Fortunately for them a need for their facilities is produced both by an expanding economy when 'business booms, and by a recession which brings it to a halt. Whilst the problems created by these diametrically opposite business situations appear to be quite different animals, they have in common a restriction of cash flow, and therefore a diminished working capital, caused by the changes induced in the pattern of trade debtors. Thus turnover expansion produces increased debtors to be funded, whilst recession produces a slower payment from a decreasing debtor total. The slow-down of receipts relative to turnover, however induced, shows up dramatically if uncomfortably as a drag on asset velocity, and it is then, by paying cash to their clients at the moment they invoice their customers and waiting for those customers to pay, that confidential invoice factoring insulates the company from the burden and uncertainty implicit in credit-stretching debtors.

### Steady rise

The last twelve months have not exactly brought finance directors flocking to the confidential invoice factors' doors with bulging order books, but confidential invoice factoring turnovers have risen steadily. While it was not immediately apparent, it can be seen in retrospect that this factoring growth was credit-squeeze rather than expansion induced, and the increasing number of business failures only confirmed what so many industry which looks to trade debtors for its security had learnt the hard way that a profound recession was gathering momentum. Many strong, well managed companies were caught unawares by the severity of the recession with forward plans so strongly under way that firm commitments for stocks and capital expenditure could not be reversed.

Businesses, not excluding one might almost say

especially, the biggest in the land, simply stopped paying their suppliers. When cash flow is strained the deadening effect of financing one's customers becomes startlingly clear and confidential invoice factoring is designed to cure this involuntary fund inertia.

### Storm abating

The economic storm is now abating and the business situation has found a measure of stability, albeit at a low level of activity, so that too much money is momentarily chasing too few borrowing companies. Government fiscal policy has brought this about and the Chancellor now says that he detects the onset of the next business cycle; indeed he promises a boom. While many businessmen are at the moment sceptical of these political noises off, there are signs that more and more boards are beginning at last to look at projections indicating growth ahead. The temporarily over-liquid joint stock banks are expected to be relaxed lenders for some months ahead, but wise finance directors of companies about to embark on an expanding course are setting up confidential invoice factoring facilities now against the day when their bank calls a halt to further funding by overdraft — as they surely will.

Sensible companies are doing this well in advance to ensure that their plans are not halted by lack of liquidity in mid-fulfilment. This emphasises confidential invoice factoring's triple virtues. First, it is there when sales boom and bankers call a halt. Second, like a bank overdraft, and unlike conventional factoring, the facility costs nothing to set up and can be used when required intermittently, continuously, or not at all. In the last circumstance it costs nothing and otherwise cost is related solely to usage. Third, it is confidential. There is no need to hand over the running of the sales ledger and therefore no need for a company to tell its customers and the world at large how it is funding its success.

Mr OSBOURN is a director of Goode, Durrant and Murray.

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European Representative Office: 33 Rue Galilee, Paris XVIe, France.

### Associated Banks

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Belgium, Banque Européenne de Crédit à Moyen Terme S.A., 36 Avenue des Arts, Brussels 1040.  
Australia, Capel Court Corporation Ltd., Capel Court, 379 Collins St., Melbourne, Victoria 3000.  
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# Nixon set to phase out latest controls

The Nixon Administration will soon begin formal planning for phasing out its Phase 2 wage-price controls.

The early start on dismantling the post-freeze controls that took effect only this week will reflect the opinion of some high officials that the controls are a distasteful infringement of freedom and would break down anyway within 18 months.

There are sure to be heated debates within the Administration on how soon to begin loosening the restraints, however, and some influential authorities think some degree of controls will have to be extended well into 1973 or beyond.

on the anti-inflation aspect of policy, growth is ranked as the key objective for fear that unemployment might otherwise remain too high as the 1973 elections approach.

So far, the authorities are disappointed by the reaction in the business and financial communities, where the emphasis has been on confusion growing out of the Phase 2 regulations.

The stock market slump is particularly disturbing to Administration officials, as it is generally taken as registering, in some exaggerated form, the concern that profits will not be allowed to pick up as strongly as desired next year.

## Fuel rationing

While some officials assert that the confusion will abate rapidly, others suspect that each new regulation and interpretation will raise further uncertainties.

Further criticism of the Phase 2 controls came from oilmen and oil analysts attending the American Petroleum Institute's meeting in San Francisco. Many believe the controls mean the possibility of power shortages and a possible rationing of fuels.

The oilmen have focused on environmental controls, the growing dependence of the United States on foreign sources of petroleum and the need for a national energy policy. But privately a major topic has been President Nixon's economic stabilisation programme largely because it caught the oilmen with lower prices than they want.

## Slower drilling

Because they fear they will not be able to get the big price increases they insist they need for both oil and gas, the oilmen contend that drilling for new reserves, at a 25-year low, will be slowed even more. This, they say, will mean an added impact on the energy crunch and will lead to fuel shortages.

But not all oilmen are completely disenchanted. Some are heartily in accord with the President's efforts to curb inflation, perhaps because of the big wage rises that are pending in their own industry.

If the pay holiday approves, oil workers generally are due for a 7.5 per cent wage increase with additional benefits on January 1.—AP-Dow Jones.



A cool look for workers at Bowring House and Vincula House, overlooking the Tower of London, after reglazing with Solarshield, a Pilkington glass which is claimed to cut solar heat gain by 77 per cent

# Company news briefs

## Final results

Bazell Holdings: 121 per cent. Profit £28,517 before tax of £34,803. Company was made public in November 1970.

Yorkshire and Lancashire Investment Trust: 31 per cent. Profit £1,300 (loss £70,952). After tax of £23,465 (£25,539).

Wolsey (subsidiary of Court-s): Loss before tax £18,000 (loss £39,000). Tax relief £7,000 (£42,000).

Chaddeley Investments: Nil (same). Pre-tax loss £59,334 (loss £115,491). Tax £4,413 (£5,135). Surplus arising on sale of investment properties and taken to capital reserve amounted to £35,558.

## Interim results

Canal Roadolph Corporation: Quarterly 27 pence (same).

General Securities Investment Trust: 6 per cent (same). Pre-tax profit £14,643 (£30,243). Tax £19,000 (£14,000).

Cooper Sports: Profit £45,433 (£30,243). Tax £19,000 (£14,000). Liverpool SHE (subsidiary of Robert Stephenson Holdings): Nil (same). Profit £17,700 (loss £70,952). No tax liability arises in respect of first half of current year. Newcastle General Investment Company: 3 pence (same). Net pre-

tax revenue £27,024 (£25,968) after administrative expenses and debenture interest of £7,168 (£7,263).

Harvors Investment Trust: 4 pence (same). Net revenue £205,453 (£190,733). Revenue for second half will be somewhat lower than last year's corresponding figure but it is hoped to maintain total dividend at 17 pence.

Aberdeen, Edinburgh London Trust: Second interim of 3 pence in respect of 13 months, period to December 31.

## Business changes

Norvic Shoe Company: Mr A. L. Pittman, Mr R. A. Simpson and Mr H. W. Greenfield, have been appointed directors. Mr B. D. Shaw, Mr A. Parker have resigned as directors.

Fothergill and Harvey: Mr G. H. J. Andrew, the managing director, has resigned as a director, having relinquished his directorships of Textilegas and Fibre Glass.

## Bids and deals

Readymade Concrete propose to redeem at par on December 31, 1971, the 7 per cent unsecured loan stock 1970/76 and the smaller stock dated 1959/65. Newman Industries Group has acquired F. and R. Engineering, whose net assets are about £30,000.

# W H Smith moves up as dividend is raised

The shares of W. H. Smith and Son (Holdings), the books, newspapers, fancy goods, and records retail chain, moved ahead smartly yesterday following an excellent set of figures for the eight months to October 2.

Shareholders can look forward to at least a 14 point rise in the total dividend this year. An increase from 34 pence to 50 pence in the interim dividend to reduce disparity between payments is to be followed by a final of not less than an unchanged final of 84 pence.

Results for the eight months to October 2 reflect the first benefits in the cut in SET. Thanks to a widening in margins of 9 per cent rise to £79,064,000 in sales has produced a 32 per cent jump to £1,846,000 in the pre-tax profit. Earnings have increased from 7.1p to 9.5p per share.

To date the group seems to have been little affected by strikes and there can be little doubt that benefits continue to flow from increased efficiency in the retail chain, the company's warehouse. Higher selling prices for newspapers are also helping.

Consumer spending is building up. Christmas trading prospects look good and the board expects that the remaining four months of the current year will produce a further advance in profit.

## M. K. Electric prospers

M.K. Electric Holdings, is yet another company to pay more with an interim of 10 pence, against 6 pence last time. As the first half pre-tax profit has shot up by around 50 per cent from £550,568 to £810,150, the larger payment is soundly based.

The group is still doing well. The chairman believes that turnover will be maintained in the second half and that the profit for the whole year will be "considerable".

He adds that the company has introduced a new range of products which are being very well received.

## G. H. Downing boosts earnings

Although the report from G. H. Downing, the manufacturer of clay products, has its low point, it looks as though the group is heading for sharply higher earnings this year.

Pre-tax profit leaped from

£194,000 to £310,000 in the six months to September 30.

The chairman emphasises that the marked improvement in the profit was partly due to sales from stocks which are now substantially reduced. He reminds shareholders that the results for the second half can be influenced by weather conditions.

## Young and Co raises interim

As expected, Young and Company's brewery has staged a satisfactory first half advance in profits and the interim dividend is being raised by two points to 13 pence.

Pre-tax profit has moved up from £251,763 to £310,444, but the latest result includes £35,758 from sales of assets, against only £5,940 last time. In the absence of a depreciation charge it is difficult to assess the performance, but the group has obviously had the full benefit of last December's price rise.

## Barton Transport up one point

Barton Transport is raising its dividend by one point to 10 pence tax free—a payment which is backed by an increase from £90,511 to £122,575 in the pre-tax profit for 1970-71.

In a comment on the outlook, the directors report that the capital replacement programme was renewed with vigour during the year, 24 new coaches having been purchased. They add that new vehicles already on order will attract an increased Government grant of 50 per cent.

## Longton Transport offer ready

The Industrial and Commercial Finance Corporation has completed the underwriting arrangements for an offer for sale of 2 million ordinary 52p shares in Longton Transport (Holdings) at a price of 47p per share.

Pre-tax profits of this Stoke-on-Trent group dealing in transport, storage and distribution, steel stockholding and production, and vehicle distribution, have risen from £109,000 in 1962 to £278,000 in 1970, and £358,000 in 1971. The board looks for at least £412,000 in 1971-2 and a 14 per cent dividend covered 1.4 times.

At the offer price, the dividend yield is 6.1 per cent on cash. For each ordinary share and 67p for each preference share. The total price will be £1,437 million.

Details of the offer will be published on Monday and the application list will open next Thursday.

## Modest first half by Thomas Locker

Thomas Locker (Holdings), the engineering group, turns in a modest first half increase in its profit, and the interim dividend is being raised from 34 pence to 4 pence. The board emphasises that this does not mean a higher total for the year.

A pre-tax profit for the six months to September 30 of £313,000, compares with £308,000, a result however, which does not include any dividend from the trade investment in Associated Perforators and Weavers. The share of profit from this source for the nine months to September 30 amounted to £178,000, compared with £165,000.

Providing there is no further deterioration in the general economic situation, the board anticipates that the group profit for the whole of 1971 will be less than for 1970-1.

## Margins trouble for Wedgewood

Margins of Wedgewood, the fine bone china manufacturer, are being squeezed. In spite of an increase from £5,797,000 to £9,259,000 in sales, the pre-tax profit slipped from £654,000 to £111,000 in the six months to October 2 and earnings work out at 6.7p against 7.75p a share previously.

The group has been hit by high interest rates. In his message to shareholders, the chairman says he sees no evidence as yet that the company is out of the worst of the profitable conditions. In the face of continuing inflation, he feels that it is inevitable that there will be strong pressures for higher wages, but is confident that the company will maintain its leading position in the industry.

## Spectrol to buy J. Samuel White

J. Samuel White, the engineering group which is 82 per cent controlled by the Foreign and Colonial Investment Trust, is being taken over by Spectrol Holdings, a wholly owned subsidiary of Carrier Corporation, of the U.S.

Spectrol will be paying 60p cash for each J. Samuel White ordinary share and 67p for each preference share. The total price will be £1,437 million.

## MARKET REPORT

# Big Cit buying sets the tone

A useful overnight rally Wall Street enabled the L stock market to step on forward yesterday in active trading. By the close "Financial Times" index up 5.5 at 420.5.

Most sections showed size gains and with the institution operating on a broader scale, many rises were disproportionate to actual business done. Take developments provided considerable interest and threw several special features.

Some hesitancy occurred around midday when the jobless total for the Midlands was announced, but this pro-shortly and buyers resumed operations to keep most prices near last levels by close.

Glits matched the tone equities with gains ranging about 1, though dealers' depleted books after the advance, were unable to fully the demand. A rise in the price of Treasury 8 per cent 2000-6 led to long-dated issues showing the bigger gains.

Industrial leaders often by 7p or 8p, but it was building group which claimed most of the daylight. A strong on the Minister's mission expressed at Olyn about a 1972 boom, a merger proposal between R and Ready Mixed Concrete brought a further spate activity in late trading.

Ahead of the new, who would create one of Britain's highest combines in this sector, Ready Mixed was up 1p at 147, while Redi improved 14p to 117.

Keen demand raised corner Orme Developments to 114.

Tobacco, brewers, stores had their support. Engineering still reduced to up by the toolroom strike took some comfort from Government's peace overture though rises were general modest.

Associated British Metals gained 12p to 163 and the stock Oldham Industries closed 34p up at 624 following the Carlton Industries offer. W. H. Smith "A" 32p at 568, was one of the features arising from trade.

Rises by bank leaders led to 12p, but insurance came back from a firm HPs, charted a similar, co-

## CLOSING PRICES

Account November 26 Settlement December 7

### British Funds

Transport	95.1
3pc 1972-73	95.1
3pc 1973-74	95.1
3pc 1974-75	95.1
3pc 1975-76	95.1
3pc 1976-77	95.1
3pc 1977-78	95.1
3pc 1978-79	95.1
3pc 1979-80	95.1
3pc 1980-81	95.1
3pc 1981-82	95.1
3pc 1982-83	95.1
3pc 1983-84	95.1
3pc 1984-85	95.1
3pc 1985-86	95.1
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3pc 1993-94	95.1
3pc 1994-95	95.1
3pc 1995-96	95.1
3pc 1996-97	95.1
3pc 1997-98	95.1
3pc 1998-99	95.1
3pc 1999-00	95.1
3pc 2000-01	95.1
3pc 2001-02	95.1
3pc 2002-03	95.1
3pc 2003-04	95.1
3pc 2004-05	95.1
3pc 2005-06	95.1
3pc 2006-07	95.1
3pc 2007-08	95.1
3pc 2008-09	95.1
3pc 2009-10	95.1
3pc 2010-11	95.1
3pc 2011-12	95.1
3pc 2012-13	95.1
3pc 2013-14	95.1
3pc 2014-15	95.1
3pc 2015-16	95.1
3pc 2016-17	95.1
3pc 2017-18	95.1
3pc 2018-19	95.1
3pc 2019-20	95.1
3pc 2020-21	95.1
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3pc 2029-30	95.1
3pc 2030-31	95.1
3pc 2031-32	95.1
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3pc 2040-41	95.1
3pc 2041-42	95.1
3pc 2042-43	95.1
3pc 2043-44	95.1
3pc 2044-45	95.1
3pc 2045-46	95.1
3pc 2046-47	95.1
3pc 2047-48	95.1
3pc 2048-49	95.1
3pc 2049-50	95.1
3pc 2050-51	95.1
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3pc 2060-61	95.1
3pc 2061-62	95.1
3pc 2062-63	95.1
3pc 2063-64	95.1
3pc 2064-65	95.1
3pc 2065-66	95.1
3pc 2066-67	95.1
3pc 2067-68	95.1
3pc 2068-69	95.1
3pc 2069-70	95.1
3pc 2070-71	95.1
3pc 2071-72	95.1
3pc 2072-73	95.1
3pc 2073-74	95.1
3pc 2074-75	95.1
3pc 2075-76	95.1
3pc	



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## On the right track

WHILE Britain, the United States and France have taken an interest in the hovertrain—a commercial system has just been given the go-ahead in Paris—German engineers are looking to magnetic suspension to replace steel wheels. Last spring, the West German Government was talking of a development programme running into hundreds of millions of Deutschmarks and last month three competing systems were shown to engineers at the International Congress on Electric Railways in Munich.



by Peter Rodgers,  
Our Technology Correspondent

According to Railway Gazette International, the Krupp exhibit hardly went beyond the scientific toy stage, but two other groups were able to show delegates passenger-carrying cars. Unlike the Krupp demonstration both used magnetic attraction rather than repulsion. Attraction does not need a track of permanent magnets, although it does need a control system to keep electromagnets and iron on steel track a constant distance apart. Once this has been solved it is said to be more economical.

Messerschmitt-Bölkow-Blohm's small car, built as a roll-over project with German railways and others, was shown running on a few hundred metres of track near Otterburn, and visitors had a ride in it.

The MBB car is propelled by a linear electric motor, which acts against a central aluminium rail. For suspension, the car is held by electric magnets pulled upwards and outwards on to the faces of heavy steel angles, which are bolted to brackets carried on wooden sleepers. Railway Gazette International describes the ride as like a four-wheel car on rails, with the car feeling and hearing every joint in the suspension system at less than 40 mph.

The third system was shown by Krauss-Maffei, which has built a one kilometre track near Munich in co-operation with the Federal Government. This is much more elaborate and consists of pre-cast concrete sections lapped by a track with a cross section like an upside down "T".

The central vertical part of the track is aluminium, and acts as the reaction rail for the linear motor which drives the car. The sides of the car, which is called the "Trans", hang over the edge of the track and project a little underneath it. Electromagnets in this projection pull upwards on to an iron member fixed to the underside of the T beam, holding the car. At about 40 mph the car was again rather noisy.

### Too costly

Magnetic suspension is in its infancy and it will probably take at least a decade to show whether the concept is economically feasible, safe, and comfortable. The aim of the West German Government is a passenger and freight transport system capable of 200 mph, the basis of a new ground transport system planned to complement motorways and conventional railways by the end of the century.

Railway Gazette International comments that the Munich demonstrations did not prove the superiority of magnetism over steel rails because the tracks were too costly and even the low speed rides inferior.

But with confident backing from the West German Government (which ranks high speed ground transport, and particularly the magnetic train, top of the list of its priorities in the "science ministry budget") these technical limitations are likely to melt away. A large site is being acquired for tests and spending is expected to be in the region of £50 millions over the next six years of which a large part will go on buying a big test site.

Even so, the system will certainly have to meet a great deal of com-

about £50,000—but it does operate in one of the most important areas of the machine tool industry. Numerical control with all its productivity advantages was a particular enthusiasm of the old Ministry of Technology which ran a variety of aid schemes to speed its introduction.

Only one of them, the pre-production order scheme under which companies could install advanced machines on approval at Government expense, was any sort of success. Nearly 25 millions was spent on it and in fact there's £1 million left in the kitty which the Department of Trade hopes to release soon (but on a much more choosy basis, for special schemes which may not turn out to be conventional numerical control at all).

The advice service's objective is to prove to companies that numerically controlled machines, in spite of their higher cost give a better return than the equivalent conventional machining capacity. The service may be on a small scale, but the Government could have chosen a more tactful time than the machine tool industry's worse slump since the war to tinker about with its finances.

One of the recurrent criticisms of Ministers' make of interventionist aid services is that nobody respects anything which is handed out free. The Bolton Report on small firms made the same point two weeks ago, and it was specifically endorsed by Mr Nicholas Ridley, Under-Secretary of State for Industry.

### Self support

However, the advice service does get a substantial proportion of its running costs back in fees, and so withdrawal of Government support would probably survive after contracting to its economic size.

It is already working towards self support, and has been diversifying into assessments of other types of plant. Many other institutions have spotted the trend in Government thinking and are drumming up fee-paying work as fast as they can. The pattern for the tiny numerical control advice service may be repeated for the research associations themselves, which may be in for substantial cuts in Government aid, and a push further in the direction of their existing industrial sponsors.

FERRANTI yesterday demonstrated a breakthrough in laser technology, a high powered gas laser which instead of the usual 15 feet length, is packed into a box 4½ feet long and 14 feet square. Placust of Rotherham have installed the machine (which takes up much less space than a conventional laser) for shape-cutting fine gauge metals, plastics, and other materials.

ENGINEERS will be able to call up the designs of their predecessors from data banks and modify them in the light of new materials and techniques. Provided they are good learners they will be able to gain experience very quickly, using simulation techniques and computer aided design, according to Professor J. F. Coles, President of the Institute of Electrical Engineers, in his inaugural address. It should then be possible to modify engineering education to avoid the tedious learning of formulae and facts by rote, he believes.

LONDON University Computing Services is selling a Swedish system for measuring how executives and other people in non-routine jobs spend their time. It uses an electronic recorder which produces an audible signal at random intervals, at which point the user punches a card with a code giving what he is doing. (He has to be cooperative and interested in improving his own efficiency). The cards with their random sample of the users' activities, are analysed statistically by computer.

## Silentnight ready to become a big noise

By BRIAN WHITE

GIVEN THE length of time that most people spend in bed, the industry that supports the sleeping public should be one of the largest in the country. But the disappointing fact that manufacturers have to face is that the average person rests on only three beds between cradle and grave. As a result the industry's market is as hazy as an old mattress.

It is therefore something of an event, when out of the ranks of companies that operate in the field, steps a relative newcomer called Silentnight, of Larnoldwick, Yorkshire, with a record of useful growth and plans to go public within a year.

The company, which started in 1946, reached sales of £1 million nine years ago, and with the help of a recent spate of takeover activity, expects to push sales past the £6.75 million level this year.

Where the company goes from here is something which has been carefully planned and documented by its executives. A stock market quotation is clearly laying the basis for a further spate of takeover activity. If everything goes according to plan, within the next decade the company will become a major force in the bedding industry.

Silentnight's ambitions are of unusual among potential newcomers to the stock exchange. What is different is its approach.

The decisive influence on the group is Mr Tom Clark, the company's founder and present chairman. To the outsider, at first sight, he is a mild and highly self-confident man, plotting the aims of the company ten years ahead and drawing up a shopping list of takeovers (all carefully evaluated for such things as management compatibility) with the detachment that is customary among conglomerates.

The management style is unusual for a company of this size. The group has introduced, as innovation for management, trainees which could well be copied by those companies who believe in simply shipping newcomers from one department to another. As part of its training, Silentnight is planning to give each trainee

enough money to get to Europe. From then on, it will be up to him to find a job in the furniture field where he will work for six months.

This will not only give trainees a working knowledge of a European language but will also give them a grasp of conditions in a market where the company obviously hopes to work one day. (Inevitably, though a move into Europe is still some years off, Silentnight has the location of its first plant already earmarked.)

At the moment, Silentnight has overseas factories in Cyprus, Kenya, and Uganda. Direct exports are difficult for, as Mr Clark puts it, it is "shipping fresh air."

With its substantial base in bedding, the company is broadening its product range with a move into upholstery. The hope is that by the time

the company goes public there will be 10 manufacturing subsidiaries. Eventually the group hopes to move into the furnishing field.

Trading conditions are running very much in its favour. In the past the industry has had to contend with a growth rate of 4-6 per cent a year in sales, about half of which was made up of price increases and the rest improved demand. These sluggish conditions have whittled the number of companies in the industry down from 425 after the war to 120 today.

In the past 18 months, however, prices have improved enormously. The dwindling number of firms could, hopefully, mean an end to the phases of competitive price-cutting which have affected the industry in the past.

There has also been an

increasing emphasis on marketing from an industry which was previously very much production orientated and this is one of Silentnight's strengths.

It is perhaps the very difficulties of the bedding market that have led to the need for an intense professionalism of management. "The housewife," says Mr Clark, "doesn't know what she wants." The difficulty lies in the fact that while a good bed from the medical point of view is hard on the public associates comfort with softness. "The bedding trade has to arrive at something between the two," says Mr Clark.

The major difficulty, however, is persuading people to buy more beds. The traditional pattern of purchase is one when the child leaves the nest, the second on marriage, and the third and final about twenty years later. Bedding men groan at the thought of their products being reduced to unhygienic hulks and Mr Clark is hopeful of raising consumption per head over lifetime to five. "Even then we're only beginning to scratch the surface."



## Remploy record sales

Remploy Limited, the Government organisation for employment of the disabled, reports that sales increased by 20.5 per cent in 1970-1 to a record £11,266,000. Inflation accounted for some part of this, but after accounting for the retail price index movement, the result in real terms was still a satisfactory 11.75 per cent increase.

The chairman, Mr A. L. Stuchbery emphasised yesterday it was inevitable that Remploy, with 86 factories, would suffer to a disproportionate extent from inflation. Increased costs, resulted in an excess of expenditure over income of £5,417,000 compared with £5,060,000 for the previous year.

Remploy plans to increase the strength of disabled employees to between 8,000 and 8,500 by 1975. New factories at Brixton and Wrexham had been built and other new factories, extensions, and improvements are planned for various parts of England, Scotland and Wales.

## Big reserves for B H South

Broken Hill South has 30 million tons of potential copper ore and more is expected, shareholders were told at the annual meeting.

Sir Lindsay Clark, chairman, said "mineralisation at Cobarr is more extensive than previously thought." The company has leases and exploration licences covering almost all potential ore-bearing ground 10 miles north and south of Cobarr in central New South Wales.

## German car trade decline?

Vehicle production by West Germany's motor industry is likely to decline 5 per cent in 1972 from the 1971 output, Ifo-Institut fuer Wirtschaftsforschung, a leading West German economic research institute, forecasts.

In a survey the institute predicts a considerable downturn in domestic sales of West German cars and slightly lower car exports next year. It did not make any exact production and sales projections for 1972.

Industry officials expect 1971 motor vehicles sales of around 2,100,000 units, up from 2,042,297 units in 1970. Of the 1971 total, about 3,800,000 units will be accounted for by cars, the balance by commercial vehicles. Car production amounted to 3,527,914 units last

year, when 314,383 commercial vehicles were produced.

Ifo-Institut based its 1972 prediction on sharply slower car sales at domestic dealers since summer this year, and on shrinking order backlogs in industry. There is a growing tendency among owners to stick to their current cars and hold off replacing them with new cars because of the uncertain economic situation.

West German motor companies, for the first time since 1966, expect an unfavourable trend of business, according to Ifo-Institut.

A previous survey of the West German industrial federation projected 20 per cent to 25 per cent lower 1971 earnings for the country's car makers.

Because of the D-mark float with the resulting de facto revaluation of the currency and because of import restrictions

imposed in the United States, West Germany's largest car export market, the research institute saw generally declining West German car exports next year.

Ever since the mark was allowed to float in May, West German car makers have been complaining that their cars are no longer competitive in export markets because of the price disadvantage resulting from the de facto revaluation.

While Ifo-Institut predicted a 10 per cent decline of West German car sales on the domestic market next year, it saw increases in sales of imported cars.

In the first nine months of 1971, it noted, imports accounted for 25.1 per cent of all new cars registered in West Germany, up from 22.4 per cent for the equivalent period in 1970.

## Japan threatens to delay tariff cuts

Japan may delay plans to lower tariffs on imported cars and commodity taxes on all cars until after the United States removes its 10 per cent import surcharge, Mr Eiichi Yamashita, director of the international trade bureau of the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI), said yesterday.

Although a final decision to postpone the tariff reduction has not been made, "there have been persistent views that cannot be neglected" favouring a delay, Mr Yamashita said.

Japan originally announced plans to cut its tariff on imported cars to 8 per cent from 10 per cent effective from April 1. At the same time, the country's commodity tax, which applies to both domestic and imported cars would be reduced to 20 per cent from 40 per cent for large cars; to 20 per cent from 30 per cent for medium-sized cars, and remain un-

changed at 15 per cent for small cars. Japanese cars shipped to the US attract a tariff of 15 per cent, including the surcharge, and US consumers must pay a 7 per cent excise tax on any car they purchase. The excise tax is scheduled to be eliminated under President Nixon's new economic programme.

The indication from MITI that the scheduled car tariff reduction may be postponed is the first sign in Japan of anything in the trade sphere that might be termed retaliation against the US import surcharge.

Mr Yamashita explained that since the Japanese decision to reduce the duty and commodity tax was taken unilaterally without asking for compensating moves from other countries, a decision to postpone the move could be made without consulting any other countries.

## New IRC needed, says Schon

A Government finance agency is needed on the lines of the now dismantled Industrial Reorganisation Corporation, industrialist Sir Frank Schon told the Commons Trade and Industry sub-committee on public spending yesterday.

He said: "I would not like the agency to be competitive with recognised merchant bankers. I would like it to go in when programmes of national interest are involved." Sir Frank, who was a member of the board of the IRC, is chairman of the National Research Development Corporation and president of Cumberland Development Council.

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AYER'S COMPETITION: First I regret, as it as they should be  
d replay.—Hull v. Dewsbury. or could be."

to return. "hospitality of its people."

Tim Seymour.

QUICK CROSSWORD—PAGE 23

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regret, as much as they should be against North Americans and to return.

hospitality of its people." Tim Seymour.

**QUICK CROSSWORD—PAGE 23**



# Maudling to meet TV chiefs

By PETER HARVEY

Mr Maudling is to hold within the next few days his promised meeting with the chairmen of the BBC and the Independent Television Authority to discuss reporting from Northern Ireland. It has not yet been decided whether the Home Secretary will hold separate meetings, or whether other executives will attend.

Both broadcasting authorities feel that one item on the agenda might be a Government request to prepare a "code of conduct" for Ulster coverage. This would ban on-the-spot interviews with soldiers and civilians immediately after incidents. The code would also require reporters—who would be allowed to interview people some time after an incident—not to use direct quotes from eyewitnesses but to put the story together in their own words.

The Conservative MPs who raised the allegations of bias with Mr Maudling are believed to have said that many of these "instant" interviews contained the worst examples of distorted reporting. Mr Maudling will be told that reporters must be allowed to interview people who are concerned in or witness violent events to give a true picture of what is happening in Ulster.

The BBC, which has taken the brunt of the criticism—is also annoyed at the attitude of Mr Julian Critchley, Conservative MP for Aldershot, who referred to the reporting of the shooting of two women in a car in Belfast. Mr Critchley, the secretary of the Conservative Party's parliamentary broadcasting committee, said it was unfair to subject a confused and harassed army major to questioning immediately after the incident. The BBC pointed

# Out of tune duet on Ulster

By NORMAN SHRAPNEL

ONE COULD pretend that yesterday's emergency debate on the Compton Report never took place, just as some politicians insist that it is best to turn a blind eye on some of the happenings in Ulster itself.

Such a pretence would certainly avoid drawing attention to the noisy scenes that accompanied Mr Chichester-Clark's speech when he was opening his debate, here were cries of "You're not telling the truth!" when he criticised the media, particularly the BBC, and also the Amnesty report, and outbursts of anger when he refused to give way. "Name him, name him!"

Mr Chataway, the Minister of Posts and Telecommunications, said the Government's policy was that both the BBC and the ITA were "wholly and solely responsible for the programme content of their services." Mr Chataway to use his influence to ensure that coverage of Northern Ireland was objective.

Mr Chataway said that Mr Maudling would tell the chairmen of the BBC and the ITA of Parliament's concern "but there should be no doubt that the broadcasting organisations have an extremely difficult task in this respect. They have to recognise that the presence of cameras can sometimes influence events and that they are in a sense participants as well as observers. At the same time they have to try and give fair coverage."

## Subsided

Speaker Lloyd repeatedly appealed to her to sit down, but she insisted on accompanying the noble lord. Hands folded demurely in front of her, soprano voice booming against Lord Balmori's, she went right on almost to the end of the road; though it got increasingly hard to hear what either of them had to say.

Finally Mr Hugh Delargy had a word with her and she subsided. If he had also had a more public word with other friends advising them against forcing a division on the grounds that a heavy majority would be certain, and might be misunderstood. There was no division. So perhaps was Mr Delargy's debate, at the end of the day.

There was also that other Bernadette interlude when Miss Devlin, challenged to say whether or not she was against the IRA, shouted back at the Tories: "I am not against the official IRA—it's aims and objectives." And there was Mr Roy Hattersley, the former Minister of Defence Administration, under whom the troops originally went to Ulster, insisting that the army was fine but it was not made any finer by having criticisms of its conduct swept under the carpet. Nor could he avoid the suspicion that it was now acting as though it was being directed from Belfast and that Catholics were losing faith in it.

Mr Hattersley urged that some of the things brought out in the report needed further investigation in the army's own interests—as did Mr Mendelson, who still maintained that there had been "brutality of a very bad kind."

This so infuriated the Conservatives that Mr Callaghan, when he got up to make his temperate and closing speech, had to defend Mr Mendelson from the charge of "helping the enemies of this country." The battle has to go on, Mr Callaghan maintained, but we must watch the weapons we use in winning it. Already we had gone some way "down the slippery slope," and it hardly helped for Lord Carrington to go on TV and call suspects "thugs and murderers."

# Wilson ranges far and wide

From IAN AITKEN in Belfast

Mr Wilson's tour of Ulster continued yesterday with a flying visit to Londonderry and another tight schedule of meetings with political, industrial, and religious leaders.

He was whisked into Londonderry early in the morning by a RAF helicopter and spent half an hour being briefed on the city's security problems by the local army commander and the chief of police. He then drove into the city centre for an hour-long meeting at the Londonderry Development Commission.

The meeting was a successful piece of diplomacy, as the commission has not yet met as a united body since its four Catholic members withdrew in protest against internment.

The leader of the Opposition flew back to Belfast at almost

exactly the moment when disturbances developed in the Bogside area of Londonderry after the accidental shooting of a boy.

The talks resumed when leaders of the Northern Ireland committee of the Irish Congress of Trade Unions briefed Mr Wilson on the unemployment situation in the province. Then, a succession of Protestant church leaders, members of the Chamber of Commerce, representatives of the moderate New Ulster Movement, and two members of the Catholic clergy called successively to see Mr Wilson at a private house outside Belfast.

But perhaps the most important meeting of Mr Wilson's trip took place at dinner, when Mr Gerry Fitt and Mr John Hume led in a delegation from the Social Democratic and Labour Party. The SDLP has so far refused to take part in talks with Mr Maudling until internment is ended.



Students marching to the Department of Education and Science in London yesterday to protest at Government proposals for the future finance of student unions which, the marchers said in petitions, would seriously weaken, if not destroy them. Later an estimated 10,000 students lobbied their MPs at the House of Commons

# Box-girder bridge wins steel design award

By JUDY HILLMAN, Planning Correspondent

A box-girder bridge—still subject to lane restrictions imposed by the Department of the Environment—has won one of this year's structural steel design awards.

The bridge which carries the M5 across the Bredon Valley near Tewkesbury, Gloucestershire, was designed by Freeman Fox and Partners, the firm of engineers involved in the design of the box-girder bridges that collapsed during construction at Yarra in Melbourne and Milford Haven.

Two similar bridges have collapsed while being built—at Vienna in November 1969, and last week at Koblenz in Germany. More than 50 men were killed by these four bridge failures.

## Record win on pools

Two men yesterday shared in a world record pools payment of £501,378. Mr Michael Turton, aged 37, of Clifton, near Rugby, Warwickshire, who works in his parents' garage in Clifton, received £253,718. Mr John Heald, aged 63, of Mexborough, Yorkshire, a mine-car repairer, got £247,659 from Littlewoods.

The Turtons plan to take their children, Francis, aged 16, and Sharon, aged 14, on a trip around the world. Mr Heald works at a colliery near his home, and his wife works in a local school preparing meals.

In Llantrisant, Glamorgan, a family syndicate of six won £109,621, on Vernons Pools, but they kept their identity secret.

## STOP PRESS

The house fire in Clifton, near Rugby, Warwickshire, which was caused by a gas leak, has been extinguished. The fire broke out at about 11.30 p.m. on Wednesday. The house was owned by Mr and Mrs J. H. Jones. The fire caused considerable damage to the property. The cause of the fire is still under investigation.

# Jobless totals edges nearer one million

By JOHN PALMER

The November unemployment figures, published today, will show that the total number of jobless has taken another big step towards one million. The figure is expected to be at least 950,000, with 929,000 last month.

The increase will be particularly embarrassing for the Government, as it indicates that only an increase in the number of jobless in the next month or in January.

Ministers are also expected to be depressed at the evidence that the number of new job vacancies is beginning to shrink, since this implies that any recovery in unemployment next year may be slight.

The figures released in the West Midlands yesterday give a strong hint of the continuing upward national trend in unemployment. In the Birmingham area the number of men wholly unemployed rose by 1,364 to 20,088. The total with part-time work in Birmingham went up from 5.2 per cent of the work force to 5.8 per cent—or 34,840. There have been similar increases in other parts of the West Midlands.

The national figures are unlikely to reflect such a sharp increase as the local statistics were affected by men laid off because of the Coventry tool-room dispute. There are also signs that rather more of the school-leavers who were unemployed last month have now found a job.

The "labour shake out" is continuing in spite of evidence of some recovery in the economy. The trade unions are particularly worried by reports that some major firms and some nationalised industries are planning further big rationalisation redundancies over the next year.

The Government economists are also apprehensive about the effect of the continuing international economic crisis on employment prospects. It is clear that several of Britain's biggest export markets in Europe will be going through their own recession next year, while the recovery in the United States is, as yet, uncertain.

## Murdered woman identified

Police have discovered the identity of the woman whose dismembered body was found in three plastic bags on a golf course at Leatherhead, Surrey, 10 weeks ago. Her name is being withheld until relatives are told.

Her identity became known after a dentist at Mansfield, Nottinghamshire, checked the dead woman's teeth.

Ports and airports were alerted last night to watch for a man police want to interview in connection with the murder, which was discovered after a golfer stumbled across a severed arm on a fairway.

## Africa call for troop

Continued from page 1

Bill of Rights which upheld by the country. The men demand unconditional release of detainees and racialist leaders in exile who committed "acts" which they were "fully" Miriam Moshiri, a Church leader, and bishops, who joined the

A three-man Roman delegation said it is the fact that the legislation "has resulted in intensification of the racial discrimination."

The Rev. Andrew general superintendent of Methodist Church, Sir Alec, that a "settling" highly desirable if it is five principles and an opinion had been con-

Sir Alec was later told for a second time by Mr Smith. The office which the Foreign, from the Foreign, Mercedes smuggled country in the Black defiance of sanctions.

Meanwhile, two priests, carrying out a mission against a "out of the five principles" attacked by a white knife outside the Cathedral today.

Inside the building time service to pray for the men was beginning. A been arrested and charged with disorderly conduct.

## Ex-mayor leave to ap

A plea by Sidney Charles Spence, former mayor of London, for leave to the House of Lords on conviction on charges, is expected to be made later this month.

On October 11, the Appeal upheld his conviction on corruption over a long project, but a year sentence to

## Cloudy some rain

A large depression moving from the Atlantic towards the British Isles, Scotland and Wales will be hit by rain and strong winds. The depression is expected to bring rain and strong winds to the British Isles, Scotland and Wales. The depression is expected to bring rain and strong winds to the British Isles, Scotland and Wales.

## Church

Widowhood Rugby Affairs, station, to persons from the town of Rugby. The station is a primary school. The station is a primary school. The station is a primary school.

## The Guardian

192 Gray's Inn London W.C.1 Editorial and Advertising: 01-837-2295. 164 Deansgate, Manchester M60 2RR. Editorial and Advertising: 061-837-2295. 164 Deansgate, Manchester M60 2RR. Editorial and Advertising: 061-837-2295.

## THE WEATHER

Reports for the 24 hours ended 6 p.m. yesterday:

Area	Temp.	Wind	Weather
London	11.0	11.0	11.0
Birmingham	10.0	10.0	10.0
Manchester	9.0	9.0	9.0
Edinburgh	8.0	8.0	8.0
Liverpool	7.0	7.0	7.0
Cardiff	6.0	6.0	6.0
Belfast	5.0	5.0	5.0

Lighting-up times: London 4.41 p.m. to 7.05 a.m. Birmingham 4.38 p.m. to 6.54 a.m. Manchester 4.35 p.m. to 6.51 a.m. Edinburgh 4.32 p.m. to 6.48 a.m. Liverpool 4.29 p.m. to 6.45 a.m. Cardiff 4.26 p.m. to 6.42 a.m. Belfast 4.23 p.m. to 6.39 a.m.

Forecast for the 24 hours ended 6 p.m. yesterday:

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